

## Art Smart: Why arts education should be a priority

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March/April 2015 ■ Montana - The Land of Creativity

Providing information to all Montanans through funding by the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of Montana

## WESTERN ART WEEK

### Great Falls hums with art auctions and exhibitions



The Russell: "Postcard from Miles City" by Bozeman artist Michael Blessing

The Electric City is humming with art displays and auctions March 18-22 during Western Art Week, the annual convergence of art makers and admirers.

**The Russell Exhibition and Sale**, March 19-22 at the C.M. Russell Museum and the Mansfield Center: The signature fund-raising event for the C.M. Russell Museum kicks off Thursday with

a Preview Party 6-8 p.m. at the museum. Meadow Lark Country Club hosts Art in Action, a quick-finish event, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday; action moves to the Mansfield Center for the First Strike Friday Night Live Auction, 6-9 p.m. Saturday brings a free educational symposium, "A New Vision of Wilderness: Nineteenth-Century American Art, Conservation, and the National Park Movement," 9 a.m.-noon; and The Russell live auction, 5-10 p.m. Throughout the week, the 22 distinguished painters and sculptors of the Russell Skull Society of Artists will display and sell their work at the Mansfield Center (727-8787 or [www.cmrussell.org](http://www.cmrussell.org)).

**Western Heritage Artists Association Art Show**, March 18-22 at the Holiday Inn: This 34th annual show, which features works by more than 60 artists in an array of media, kicks off with Preview Night at 7 p.m. Wednesday. During the Quick Finish and Auction at 6 p.m. Thursday, artists spend 45 minutes creating artworks, followed by a sale of these quick creations, with a percentage of proceeds supporting the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. The Paint-Around at 6 p.m. Friday is a timed event, where each artist has 10 minutes to work on a piece before passing it on to their neighbor; and Art Competing for Causes at 5 p.m. Saturday, features live and silent auctions and live music (406-868-9649 or [www.westernheritageartshow.com](http://www.westernheritageartshow.com)).



Western Heritage Artists Association Sale: "Texas Buck" by Ed Anderson

See Western Art Week on page 13

## Tourism industry launches SB264 to boost benefits of arts, culture, parks and tourism

Montana's tourism industry leaders have long been concerned about the effect of budgetary shortfalls and recurring funding challenges among its cultural and historical heritage partners (including the Montana Arts Council).

SB264, branded by the tourism industry as "Best Place First: Growing Montana's Economy and Preserving Our Heritage," is a bill sponsored by Sen. Bob Keenan from Bigfork and created to address these challenges.

Currently, the state has a 7% bed tax (Accommodation Sales and Use Tax). Of that total, 4% goes for tourism promotion and the other 3% goes to the state general fund. This 3% originated in 2003 to address a funding crisis in the state. The "Best Place First" bill would appropriate 60% (a projected \$10.8 million in FY 2016) of that 3% bed tax and the Rental Vehicle Sales Tax at a projected \$18 million in FY 2016.

Half of the appropriated funds would be distributed to the Montana Office of Tourism and the state's 21 travel regions and convention and visitors bureaus (CVBs). Tourism research shows that, for every dollar spent on tourism promotion, at least \$2 is generated in state revenue. This fact ensures the legislation would be revenue neutral.

The other half of the appropriated funds would be distributed among tourism's partners: State Parks, the Montana Historical Society, the Montana Heritage Commission and the Montana Arts Council. It would also create a preservation grant program for the state's historic properties. Distribution to the partners would be done annually on a set percentage basis.

As introduced, the bill would allocate the 3% bed/rent-

al car vehicle tax as follows:

- 40% to remain in state general fund;
- 22.5% to Montana Office of Tourism for tourism promotion and the promotion of the state as a location for the production of motion pictures, television commercials and related visual productions;
- 9.72% to State Parks for the renovation, replacement and enhancement of state parks;
- 7.5% to regional nonprofit tourism corporations for cultural and heritage tourism;
- 7.2% to the Montana Historical Society to use for the ongoing preservation and security of Montana's historic heritage; and
- 7.08% to the Montana Arts Council to be used for programs supporting economic development, education and cultural tourism;
- 3.48% to the Montana Heritage Preservation and Development Commission to be used for the preservation, protection and enhancement of heritage commission historic properties;
- 2.52% for a new grant program supporting heritage properties, administered by State Parks.

This bill would, for the first time, offer tourism partners the ability to strategically invest in organizations and projects to help meet demonstrated local needs. It also, for the first time, underscores the value of arts, culture and history to the tourism branding of the state.

For more information and to keep up with the latest on this legislation, visit [www.tourismmattersmt.org/category/key-issues/](http://www.tourismmattersmt.org/category/key-issues/). As of the press date for *State of the Arts*, the first hearing was scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 19, in Senate Finance and Claims.

## Montana-grown actor J.K. Simmons nominated for Oscar

Critics are predicting that former Missoula resident and University of Montana graduate J.K. Simmons will claim an Oscar as best supporting actor Feb. 22 for his role as a brutally demanding music teacher in "Whiplash." He's already swept the rest of the field, claiming Golden Globe, Critics' Choice, and Screen Actors Guild (SAG) awards, as well as a British Academy Film Award (BAFTA).

Other supporting actor nominees are Robert Duvall ("The Judge"), Edward Norton ("Birdman"), Mark Ruffalo ("Foxcatcher") and Ethan Hawke ("Boyhood").

Writer-director Damien Chazelle based the script on his own experience as a high school jazz drummer, at the mercy of a merciless teacher. When it debuted in 2014 at Sundance, it earned the grand jury prize and audience award for drama.

"Fast, furious, raging perfection in bleeding hands, broken sticks, broken relationships, broken lives. Debris surrounding transcendent greatness. Ecstasy within the agony," wrote *Los Angeles Times* film critic Betsy Sharkey. "That is 'Whiplash,' with an amazing Miles Teller on drums, a terrifying J.K. Simmons setting the tempo. A movie you feel as much as you see, and what you see is both exquisite and excruciating."

Although Simmons has been a sought-after actor in Hollywood for years, with roles ranging from the quirky father in "Juno" to a neo-Nazi on HBO's "Oz," this is his first Oscar nomination.

His father, the late Don Simmons, was head of the UM Music Department and assistant dean of the School of Fine Arts for many years. The younger Simmons attended UM from 1974-78, studying conducting, composition and voice.

See J.K. Simmons on page 5



Oscar contender J.K. Simmons

## Public Value Partnerships Guidelines and materials available

**Public Value Partnerships between Montana nonprofit arts organizations and the Montana Arts Council champion the fact that the arts are of benefit to all the citizens of Montana and are worthy of state and federal investment.**

Public Value Partnerships provide overall operating support toward the educational mission of Montana nonprofit arts organizations that have had their 501(c)(3) status for a minimum of five years and have at least one half-time paid staff member and year-round activities.

Guidelines and application materials are now available for new applicants to the Public Value Partnerships program. **The deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, April 3, 2015.**

Please see our website for more information: [www.art.mt.gov/orgs/orgs\\_publicvalue.asp](http://www.art.mt.gov/orgs/orgs_publicvalue.asp).

If you have questions, please contact Kristin Han Burgoyne, 406-444-6449 or [kburgoyne@mt.gov](mailto:kburgoyne@mt.gov).



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### Sign up for MAC's eNews

Between the bi-monthly issues of the *State of the Arts*, our staff publishes four separate e-newsletters with opportunities and information:

- Artists' email newsletter
- Arts Educators' email newsletter
- Arts Organizations' email newsletter
- Public Artists' email newsletter

Our eNews contain information that has deadlines that are too short to make the *State of the Arts*. If you'd like to sign-up for one or more of these, please offer us your contact information and what you'd like to receive at: [art.mt.gov/resources/resources\\_soasubscribe.asp](mailto:art.mt.gov/resources/resources_soasubscribe.asp) or send us an email at: [mac@mt.gov](mailto:mac@mt.gov).

## ARNI'S ADDENDUM

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director  
[afishbaugh@mt.gov](mailto:afishbaugh@mt.gov)



### Legislature's rockin' and rollin'

The Montana Arts Council's budget (HB2) hearing was in mid-January, and I want to thank Michael Blessing of Bozeman, Kristi Niemeyer of Charlo and Jill Roberts of Helena for testifying on behalf of the agency. They did a superb job!

The arts council's budget is proceeding at funding commensurate with the prior biennium, plus what are called "present law adjustments" for inflation and other fixed costs. We are not hearing of any huge problems yet with this, so that's a relief.

The Cultural Trust grants are in HB9. This year there was an enormous drop in interest earnings on the trust, and as a result the amount of money available for grants was about half of what it has been in the past.

People ask, how could this be when the stock market is doing so well? It has to do with how state law defines how the money has to be invested. The Cultural Trust is invested, primarily, in long-term bond funds. As the bonds mature and are sold, new bonds are purchased, and those rates are returning a much lower interest yield than those previously held.

The initial hearing on HB9 was held Feb. 6 in the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee. Many arts and history organizations came in to testify, and they all did a bang-up job in talking about why this grant program is so valuable to the state.

Penny Redli from Columbus is the chairman of the Cultural and Aesthetics Advisory Committee. This group makes grant recommendations to the Legislature in HB9, and she did a superlative job in providing an overview of the program to the legislative committee.

This year, the average grant was \$5,000 (and this is over a two-year period, which means \$2,500 per year). The top grant, currently, is \$10,000. There were \$5.54 in grant dollars requested for every dollar granted. The current funding level is 40% less than what it was 30 years ago.

Over the years, the arts council's funding from the state has remained fairly steady, but 20% cuts in federal funding and the loss of major national arts funders that, in the past, funded Montana cultural organizations, have led to a paucity in cultural organizations' contributed income beyond local and corporate donors and sponsors.

That is why many in the state will be eagerly watching the tourism industry's bed tax bill, SB264, which is announced on the front page of this issue of the paper. This bill could significantly change the face of cultural funding in the state.

### Speaking of corporate sponsorships: The 2% rule

We had an interesting email from our friends at the MonDak Heritage Center in Sidney, executive director Kim Simmonds

and administrative assistant LeAnn Pelvit. Kim asked, "We have a sponsor who will be cutting us a check for an event in February. They would like to receive tickets to the event in return for the sponsorship, along with some advertising. LeAnn thought that last year she had read that we could only give them tickets valued up to a percentage of what they donate to us. Do you what the limitations are?"

So, we turned to our friends at the Montana Nonprofit Association. They said that value can be no more than 2% of their donation. This is outlined at [www.asacenter.org/Resources/whitepaperdetail.cfm?ItemNumber=12199](http://www.asacenter.org/Resources/whitepaperdetail.cfm?ItemNumber=12199)

We then asked Jim Scheier, our attorney at the Attorney General's office for the State of Montana, about this law and its applicability in Montana. "Based on my research, the IRS's 2% rule is still in effect," he said, and went on to explain:

This means that a Montana tax-exempt organization that receives a "qualified sponsorship payment" has not received income from an unrelated trade or business, and is not subject to taxation for receipt of that amount. A "qualified sponsorship payment" is one where there is no substantial return benefit.

However, if the sponsor receives from the organization complimentary tickets or other goods or services with a value that exceeds 2% of the value of the payment, the organization may be subject to UBIT (Unrelated Business Income Tax) payable to the IRS, unless there is another exemption for the unrelated business income.

Montana's law on taxation of exempt organizations refers to the Internal Revenue Code provisions regarding taxation of those entities if they receive UBIT: (3) Any unrelated business taxable income, as defined by section 512 of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 512, as amended, earned by any exempt corporation resulting in a federal unrelated business income tax liability of more than \$100 must be taxed as other corporation income is taxed under this title.

An exempt corporation subject to taxation on unrelated business income under this section shall file a copy of its federal exempt organization business income tax return on which it reports its unrelated business income with the department.

Mont. Code Ann. § 15-31-102. Thus, if a Montana exempt organization incurs a UBIT (Unrelated Business Income Tax) liability exceeding \$100, that income will be subject to Montana state income tax to the same extent as other corporate income under Montana law.

These are some scenarios for some definitive examples:

1) If a sponsorship is \$2,000, the maximum comp value of tickets/admissions that could be given to meet the 2% rule would be \$40 before the exempt organization is subject to UBIT.

## During the political season: Contact your legislators!

### Here's how:

- By phone: 406-444-4800
- Online: Use the online message form at [leg.mt.gov/css/Sessions/64th/legwebmessage.asp](http://leg.mt.gov/css/Sessions/64th/legwebmessage.asp)

• By fax during sessions: House, 406-444-4825; Senate, 406-444-4875

• By mail: A well-written letter is one of the best ways to let your legislator know your thoughts and opinions about a particular issue.

Here are some tips for getting your message across effectively:

**Be brief.** Legislators have many demands on their time. They appreciate letters that are short and to the point.

**Put the message in your own words.** Form letters and petitions don't have the same impact as personal, informed opinions.

**Address your letter to a specific legislator or legislators.** Depending on your message, you may want to write to the sponsor of a bill, certain members of a committee, or your own legislators. Don't address your letter to the entire Legislature.

**Identify bills by their number, title, and sponsor.** Explain your position on the bill and ask for the legislator's support or opposition. Give any sources of information that you use to make your point.

**Include your name, address, and a little about who you are** (for example, where you work or what school you attend).

### Address letters to:

Senator XXXX, Montana Senate, PO Box 200500, Helena, MT 59620-0500; or Rep. XXXX, Montana House of Representatives, PO Box 200400, Helena, MT 59620-0400

2) If the amount of comp tickets given is worth \$100, then the exempt organization would be liable for \$60 in UBIT to the IRS, but not liable for Montana corporate income tax because it's not more than \$100.

The arts council wasn't sure how many cultural organizations are aware of this limitation, so we're bringing it to your attention. The link at the beginning of this article on sponsorships is helpful in laying out how advertising, naming events, etc. relate to the issue of "substantial or insubstantial value." It also includes other examples that may be helpful.



Montana Arts Council members Mark Kuipers and Tom Cordingley join Ron Aasheim from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks to discuss ideas to promote Montana's wildlife artists.

## STATE OF THE ARTS

*State of the Arts* is published six times a year by the Montana Arts Council and produced by *Lively Times*.

*State of the Arts* welcomes submissions of photographs, press releases and newsworthy information from individual artists and arts organizations.

Please check with the Montana Arts Council for reprint permission.

**Deadline:** The deadline for submissions is March 27, 2015, for the May/June 2015 issue. Send items to: Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620-2201; phone 406-444-6430, fax 406-444-6548 or email [mac@mt.gov](mailto:mac@mt.gov).

**Subscriptions:** *State of the Arts* is available free of charge to Montana residents as a public service of the Montana Arts Council. To subscribe, call 406-444-6430, or update or sign-up online at [www.art.mt.gov](http://www.art.mt.gov). Out-of-state subscriptions are \$15 per year; mail your check to Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620.

# CONGRATS TO ...

Billings Symphony Orchestra conductor **Matthew Savery**, who performs June 5 at Carnegie Hall in New York City with solo violinist Alexander Markov and a string orchestra. Now in his 21st season as music director of the Bozeman Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Choir and continuing in his seventh season as music director of the Wyoming Symphony Orchestra, Savery has a reputation as an electrifying performer, dedicated orchestra builder and charismatic teacher. Markov visited Bozeman in September 2014 to perform Paganini's second violin concerto as part of the Bozeman Symphony's "Discover the Wild" performance. The world-renowned violin virtuoso has been described as "the hippest violinist on the planet." Savery's Carnegie Hall debut includes performances of Vivaldi's epic "Four Seasons," with Heike Doerr on harpsichord, Tchaikovsky's Serenades and Vitali's Chaconne. For details, visit [www.carnegiehall.org](http://www.carnegiehall.org).



**Maestro Matthew Savery**

The **Crawford Brothers Band** of Great Falls, which was chosen to play two 90-minute concerts Sept. 4 and 6 at Bingley Music Live, a festival in Bingley, UK. "I'm excited," says the band's namesake Nick Crawford. "Five-digit paycheck, five-star accommodations, transportation around London, and they are also buying us instruments when we get there so we don't have to pack ours around with us." The country-western band covers the tunes of country greats "from George Strait to Garth Brooks to Johnny Cash."



**Shirley and Ben Steele meet with U.S. Sen. Jon Tester.**

(Photo by Bob Zellar/Courtesy of the Billings Gazette)

you Ben," Tester said. The citation, entered into the Congressional Record, preserves Steele's role in U.S. history forever, Tester said. Steele was a 23-year-old soldier in the Philippines when the Japanese attacked in December 1941. Steele and the other soldiers were taken prisoner and forced from the Bataan Peninsula on a six-day march. Those who struggled along the way were shot or bayoneted to death. Steele spent more than three years in prison, drawing his experience on the concrete floor of his cell. He wasn't freed until after the United States dropped atomic bombs on Japan. Steele pursued an art career after the war, teaching at Eastern Montana College in Billings for several years. One of Montana's most beloved artists, he has been honored several times, and he and his wife, Shirley, are Governor's Arts Award recipients. Steele said it was a great honor for his story to be entered into the Congressional Record.

— Reprinted with permission from the *Billings Gazette*, Jan. 17

Billings artist **Ben Steele**, 97, whose story of surviving the Bataan Death March during World War II was read into the Congressional Record in December by U.S. Sen. Jon Tester. The senator stopped by the Billings veteran's home in January to deliver the transcript of the tribute. "I appreciate what you've done for this country, what you've done for the state of Montana and the example you set for people all over this country. So, thank



**"America the Beautiful" by Willem Volkersz**

the Arlene and Harold Schnitzer Center for Art and Design, and guest curatorial advisor Jessica Hunter Larsen. Volkersz, who emigrated with his family from Amsterdam to Seattle at 14, employs painting and sculpture to narrate growing up in 1950s America. With over 50 exhibitions, his work has been displayed across the country as well as internationally. "From nomination to final prize, this biennial awards process delivers a twofold benefit: It allows the Portland Art Museum

Bozeman artist **Willem Volkersz**, who won a 2015 Contemporary Northwest Art Award from the Portland Art Museum. His work will be featured in the 2015 Contemporary Northwest Art Awards exhibition opening in October, which celebrates contemporary art created in the greater Northwest (Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana). The seven winners were chosen from 24 finalists based on the recommendations of Bonnie Laing-Malcolmson, curator of Northwest art for

to identify a number of the Northwest's exceptional talents, and it provides the museum with a far deeper understanding of the new work taking place in the region by both established and emerging artists," said Laing-Malcolmson.

Artist **Janice Bogy** of Whitehall, whose scratchboard work, "Quiet Presence," was selected by North Light Books for its publication, *Strokes of Genius 6 – Value/Lights and Darks*. Bogy's work graces the back cover of the hardcover, coffee-table book, which features 144 works selected from thousands of entries. It was released in October 2014. The Siberian tiger portrayed by Bogy resides at the Triple D Game Farm in Kalispell, a place that allows Montana artists the opportunity to get up-close and personal with endangered species rarely seen in the wild. "Quiet Presence" also won second place at the Montana Interpretations Show in Butte in June and was juried into the 22nd annual Breckenridge Fine Arts Show in Breckenridge, TX, featuring works from 15 states.



**"Quiet Presence" by Janice Bogy**

Kalispell artist **Carol McSweeney**, whose painting, "Sunday Drive," received top honors in the figure category of *Southwest Art Magazine's* annual competition and was featured in the January issue.

She also received a cash award at the San Diego Watercolor Society's International Exhibition, Oct. 1-31 at the society's gallery in San Diego. Her work has been accepted into the American Watercolor Society's International Exhibition, April 6-25 at the Salmagundi Club in New York City; the Signature American Watermedia Exhibition in Fallbrook, CA; and the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies' 40th Annual Exhibition, April 16-July 15 in Lubbock, TX. She also took second place in watermedia at the Scottsdale Artist School's Best and Brightest Exhibit, on display through February in Scottsdale, AZ. McSweeney has resided in Montana full-time for more than 30 years, and now divides her time between the desert of Arizona and the Flathead Valley. In addition to frequent participation in juried exhibitions and annual shows, a selection of her work may be viewed at the Kalispell Grand Hotel, Harper Studio in Arizona and The Watercolor Gallery in Laguna Beach, CA.



**"Sunday Drive" by Carol McSweeney**

Missoula author **Pete Fromm**, who won the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association (PNBA) award for fiction for his novel, *If Not For This*. Fromm's latest book tells the story of Maddy, diagnosed with multiple sclerosis just as her adult life begins, who faces life and family challenges and milestones with an ever deteriorating body and a fierce sense of humor. This marks the author's fifth PNBA award-winning book, joining *Indian Creek Chronicles* (1994), *Dry Rain* (1998), *How All This Started* (2001) and *As Cool as I Am* (2004). **Walter Kirm** of Livingston was on the short list with his memoir, *Blood Will Out*.

Filmmakers **Anna Hudak and Nicolas Hudak**, whose documentary, "Where God Likes To Be," a film shot on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, received three "Best Of" awards at the third annual Flathead Lake International Cinemafest (FLIC), held Jan. 23-25 in Polson. The film, which portrays what it means to be Native American today, received the People's Choice Award, Best Indigenous Film and Honorable Mention Best Picture, Documentary Feature.

**MAPS Media Institute** after-school program in Hamilton, which received a Big Sky Film grant from the Montana Film Office to create video productions that promote tourism in Ravalli County. The videos feature Darby's Logger Days and the Bull O'Rama. Deny Staggs, head of the Montana Film Office, told the *Ravalli Republic*, "We want to give young people real-world experience producing content that has a place to go, plus it is good for promotions to show authentic Montana. We were thrilled when they applied (for the grant) and knew the production was in good hands – the product is beautiful." Peter Rosten, founder and CEO of MAPS, credits three MAPS students who "really ran with this ball": **Caleb Hallahan**, a home-schooler; **Wyatt Campbell**, a Darby student; and **Cameron Smith**, one of the original MAPS students from Corvallis, who was home for the summer and helped out. Christian Ackerman supervised the effort. "The assignment was to capture the events and position them to encourage tourism, and I think we did that quite adequately," says Rosten. To watch the MAPS student-produced tourism videos, go to [vimeo.com/115878336](http://vimeo.com/115878336) and [vimeo.com/114146740](http://vimeo.com/114146740).

— From the *Ravalli Republic*, Jan. 14

**Continued on next page**



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## Send us your good news

Artists, writers, musicians, arts educators and arts administrators: Please let us know about major awards and accomplishments, especially beyond the borders of Montana.

Send your good news to Congrats, c/o *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trail, Charlo, MT 59824; or email: [writeus@livelytimes.com](mailto:writeus@livelytimes.com).

If you include a digital photo, please make sure it's at least 200 lines per inch (lpi or dpi) or file size of over 500kb.

**Congrats compiled by Kristi Niemeyer for State of the Arts**



Wyatt Campbell (Darby High School) and Caleb Hallahan (home-school student) line up a shot for a promotional video, created by MAPS Media Institute after-school program for the Montana Film Office.



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## Funding available for veterans' programs

Humanities Montana has funding available for veterans' reading and discussion programs through this spring. Called Standing Together, these programs feature short readings chosen to inspire discussion of shared experiences.

Veterans' organizations and other community organizations that serve veterans can apply online to host a Standing Together series at [www.humanitiesmontana.org/programs/standingtogether](http://www.humanitiesmontana.org/programs/standingtogether). Host organizations receive books and trained conversation leaders.

"Standing Together Montana discussions are not academic exercises and they are not therapy sessions. They are designed to let veterans talk to peers about relevant issues and ideas," says program director Kim Anderson.

Standing Together Montana is made possible through a new initiative from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Standing Together: The Humanities and the Experience of War, the Great Books Foundation, and the New York Humanities Council.

## MORE CONGRATS TO ...

**Mainstreet Uptown Butte**, which is among 90 finalists for ArtPlace America's National Grants Program. ArtPlace America is a 10-year collaboration that exists to position art and culture as a core sector of comprehensive community planning and development in order to help strengthen the social, physical and economic fabric of communities. ArtPlace received 1,283 letters of inquiry and will announce the next round of grant recipients in June. The proposal submitted by Mainstreet Uptown Butte is to embrace Butte's complex landscapes through the EyeLand Institute (ELI), a creative agency for artists working at the intersection of art and the environment. The project is intended to engage Butte's landscapes and communities through workshops, exhibitions and temporary public art installations. This proposal is one result of the overall creative placemaking efforts in Butte accelerated in 2014 by the establishment of the Imagine Butte Resource Center through the Butte Art Works project. That effort aims to embrace public art and encourage and support artists' residencies that focus on fortifying Butte's many assets, including the community's young creative talent.

The **Yellowstone Gateway Museum (YGM)**, which received a National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) Preservation Assistance Grant to support its ongoing work of properly storing significant archival materials held in its collections. The \$5,102 grant specifically funds the purchase of archival supplies and three fireproof cabinets; YGM is the only institution in Montana to receive funds during this grant cycle. The grant helps relocate historical materials, including photographs, documents and artwork, to storage areas in the museum that are regulated by an HVAC system, keeping temperature and humidity swings at a minimum.

## TRANSITIONS



**Zac Lachenbruch, Krys Holmes and Errol Koch are the new management team at the Myrna Loy Center.** (Photo by Thom Bridge/courtesy of the *Helena Independent Record*)

Welcome to writer, musician and nonprofit administrator **Krys Holmes**, who was named executive director of the Myrna Loy Center in Helena starting Feb. 1. At the same time, she promoted long-time box office manager **Zachary Lachenbruch** to film curator, and tech director **Errol Koch** to live performance curator. Holmes is author of the award-winning history book *Montana: Stories of the Land* and former singer with the jazz/poetry trio Amor Fati. She was publicist for the Myrna Loy from 2000-2010, under now-retired executive director Ed Noonan, and has organized the Myrna Loy Center Grants to Artists program for the past 14 years. Since 2011 she has been administrator for the Montana Preservation Alliance, a statewide historic preservation nonprofit. "I am confident that her talents, skills, and connection to our community will provide the administrative leadership essential to moving our arts center successfully into the future," said Donna Erwin, board president. As a National Performance Network partner and a National Dance Project hub site, the 250-seat Myrna Loy Center maintains a unique presence on the national arts scene. It is known for commissioning significant works, for nurturing regional artists, and for bringing nationally renowned live performances into Helena. The Myrna also maintains a strong reputation as a film house, screening first-run and indie films every night. Holmes is already familiar with the ups and downs of keeping a high-profile arts center afloat in challenging times. She has been serving as part-time acting managing director since September, helping the Myrna Loy through a turbulent season after the center lost two important grants. But an outpouring of financial support from the Helena community helped stabilize the arts center, and the staff now looks forward to a season of creative regeneration. "We've got an insanely creative team here, a hard-working board, and an unbelievably supportive community," Holmes says. "I can't wait to see what we're going to do together."

Welcome to writer and teacher **Caroline Patterson**, who has been named the interim director of the Missoula Writing Collaborative, Missoula's only intensive writers-in-the-schools program. Patterson took the reins of the MWC in early October, placing writers in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout Missoula and in schools in surrounding communities, including Lolo, Florence, Bonner, Potomac and Ovando. She will also administer the 2014 NEA Art Works grant that will bring writer-in-the-school residencies to schools on the Flathead Reservation. Patterson has been teaching for the Missoula Writing Collaborative since 2009, and at The



**Caroline Patterson with Missoula Writing Collaborative student**

Fellow in Fiction at Stanford University and has received fellowships from the Henfield Foundation, the LEAW Foundation and the Vogelstein Foundation. Patterson looks forward to carrying forth the mission of the Missoula Writing Collaborative, now in its 20th year. "By writing poems with our excellent writers, children learn to express the color, sound, taste and texture of their world," says Patterson. "They learn the power of language, and then, at the end of class, they stand up in front of the room and read their work and experience the joy of creation." Visit [www.missoulawritingcollaborative.org](http://www.missoulawritingcollaborative.org) for more information.



**Cori Di Biase**

and life-long lover and supporter of art of all kinds." Di Biase is currently spending much of his time traveling the state and meeting the artists, musicians, students and teachers who work with VSA Montana. "I look forward to building on VSA's long history of promoting the inclusion of Montanans with disabilities in the experience and creation of art," he says. To learn more about VSA, or just say hi, drop him a line at [dibiase@vsamontana.org](mailto:dibiase@vsamontana.org).

Welcome to **Kat Healy**, the new special events coordinator at the Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings. Healy was born and raised in Billings, and remembers visits to the Yellowstone Art Museum as a child. "I have been going to YAM events like Summerfair every year since I can remember," she says. "I have always had a great time and can't wait for the opportunity to plan one for the Billings community." For the last three summers, Healy has worked with Sarah Calhoun, founder of Red Ants Pants Music Festival, coordinating national and local press and PR as well as media buys for radio, print and web. While in college, she worked part-time in The University of Montana's public relations department, and helped organize major campus events. More recently, she planned an event to raise awareness for childcare programs through District 7 Human Resource Development Council. Her first order of business is organizing and planning the YAM's 47th annual Art Auction on March 7.



**Kat Healy**

## CONDOLENCES TO ...

The family and friends of renowned Flathead Valley artist **Bob Cavanaugh**. He died Jan. 18 in Whitefish at age 87. Born April 24, 1927, in the Black Hills of South Dakota, he spent his early years on ranches near the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where his friends were the cowboys he worked with and the Sioux Indians living around him. He served in the Merchant Marines during World War II, and went on to study art in Phoenix and at the Los Angeles Art Center School, majoring in advertising, illustration and design. After a stint with the Army from 1953-1956, he became a freelancer for western-themed comic books. He eventually moved to Seattle, where he worked as a commercial artist, and then as an art director with Boeing, redesigning the company's logo. He spent eight years as an editorial artist for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* before moving to Kalispell in 1973. Perhaps best known as a sculptor, he was equally adept with watercolor. His subjects ranged from wildlife to cowboys to coastal and plains Indians of the American Northwest. In a story in the *Daily Inter Lake*, Kalispell artist Mark Ogle said Cavanaugh taught him how to paint watercolors. "He'd take me out every week for several years and we painted on location," Ogle recalled. "That's how I learned how to paint ..." Bigfork sculptor Gary Riecke said Cavanaugh taught him to convey emotions and impressed upon him the importance of networking with other artists, a philosophy "that filtered down from one generation to another; the idea you don't compete, you help each other," Riecke told the *Inter Lake*. "He mentored people," Ogle said. "We used to call him the 'Dean of the Western Art Movement.'"

— Excerpts from the *Daily Inter Lake*, Jan. 20

# J.K. Simmons (from page 1)

He had started to appear in regional theatre productions when Don and Judy Thomson of the Bigfork Summer Playhouse tapped him as music director and baritone for the lead in “Brigadoon.” And so began his tenure with the Bigfork Playhouse, where he was an actor, music director and director for several seasons.

The experience was formative for the young actor, he said in a 2002 interview with *Lively Times*. “It was hugely valuable and a great place to learn,” he says. “When you produce four musicals in repertory, among other things you really learn to be a team player.”

In a recent interview on Vulture.com, Simmons reflects on that juncture, when his life veered toward theatre. “I totally fell in love with the possibilities of acting, in a different way from standing in the crook of a piano singing Brahms,” he said. “Don’t get me wrong, though. If I had two lives going on, though, one of them would still be standing in the crook of a piano singing Brahms.”

The 87th Academy Awards ceremony will be held Feb. 22 at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. You can bet J.K. Simmons will be in the audience and, his Montana fans hope, claiming an Oscar.

– Kristi Niemeyer



Miles Teller, left, as Andrew, and J.K. Simmons as Fletcher in “Whiplash.” (Daniel McFadden / Sony Pictures Classics)



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## UM jazz fest pays tribute to “our Buddy”

This year’s Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival, March 26-27 at The University of Montana in Missoula, pays tribute to the jazz legend and festival namesake, “our Buddy,” who died Dec. 24. He was 91.

Lance Boyd, former director of the UM Jazz Program, describes the pioneering bebop clarinetist as “a jazz giant.”

Boyd hired DeFranco to perform at the UM Jazz Festival in 1998, and afterward, the artist and his friend, Mike Stockton, asked “if I would be interested in Buddy being permanently associated with the festival and using his name in the festival title. I responded very enthusiastically and said yes, if I could get the support of the university and its administration.”

The Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival debuted in April 2000, and according to Boyd, it was a very fertile alliance.

DeFranco and his wife, Joyce, had a summer home in Whitefish, so they would start their season at the festival in Missoula before migrating north.

“His legendary name attached to the jazz festival put The University of Montana on the ‘map’ in jazz circles around the world. The visibility and prestige from his association opened doors and created opportunities that would not otherwise have been available,” said Boyd.

“Having his name attached to the jazz festival made it possible to hire world-class artists that were eager to come to The University of Montana to perform with him and often for much less than their usual fees.”



Jazz giant Buddy DeFranco on stage at the annual Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival

Boyd also offered a brief synopsis of DeFranco’s career. “He became a legend playing bebop on the clarinet, an approach that was extremely unique during his formative years in the 30s and 40s since most jazz clarinetists in that time were playing swing, like Benny Goodman.

“Buddy was more comfortable performing with artists like Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie and wanted to play the kind of music they were playing. He wasn’t happy just playing ‘dance music.’ He wanted to be on the cutting edge of jazz as it was quickly advancing to the level of ‘high art’ in America.”

In addition to benefiting UM students, DeFranco’s annual appearance at the festival gave locals the opportunity to hear world-class jazz.

“It’s safe to say that in the 12-plus years he came back to perform in the jazz festival, he became an annual attraction that Missoulians came out to see and hear in great numbers,” said Boyd. “The warm and enthusiastic welcome he received every year was evidence of the fact that they embraced him as their own.” Even his son, Chad, played a role as sound engineer for the evening concerts, “so at one point during Buddy’s tenure, the whole DeFranco family was involved.”

“Jazz artists and jazz historians have already acknowledged his importance to the advancement of jazz clarinet. And as time passes, the world will also come to a greater appreciation,” predicts Boyd.

For tickets to this year’s tribute concerts to “our Buddy,” call 406-243-4581.

## CONDOLENCES TO ...

The family and friends of experimental composer and sound artist **Dale Edwin Sherrard**. He died Jan. 14 in Missoula; he was 53 years old.

Sherrard, a native of Ohio, moved to New York City in the early 1980s, where he immersed himself in the lively downtown arts scene, creating sound and performance art while moving in a wide circle of poets, artists and painters. He spent three years in Liege, Belgium, where he founded Groupe Des Artistes, and returned to New York in 1995, taking a job at Dresdner-Kleinwort-Wasserstein, where he worked for 12 years. While there, he completed a master of fine arts degree from Bard College’s Milton Avery Graduate School of the Arts. His work and collaborations with sculptor Luca Buvoli were installed in the La Biennale di Venezia (2007), the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) in Philadelphia and the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) in New York City, among other venues. His work was focused primarily on the use of human voice and text, and he was particularly interested in the subtleties of concise audio editing, multi-channel production, “guerrilla” field recording and audio sculpture. In 2007 Sherrard moved to Missoula, where he performed and worked on many films, presented numerous installations, happenings and sonic works, and taught in The University of Montana’s Media Arts program, where he founded and built a sonic arts sound lab. He worked with many artists, writers, dancers, and filmmakers over the years – both in New York and Montana – including Anya Cloud, Roger Hedden, John Pilson, Courtney Saunders, Andrew Smith, Tony Torn and Ken White, as well as with his wife, poet Prageeta Sharma. A deeply admired professor and dear friend to all, he was sought out for his inspiring pedagogy and deep engagement with artistic practices. “It’s



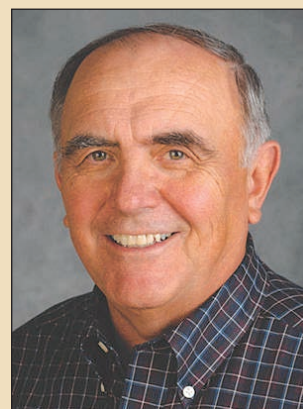
Dale Edwin Sherrard

not about the technology at all and it never was,” he said in a 2013 TEDx Talk. “It’s our need to share our sounds and our stories, and technology just supports that ... Eventually, we’re all going to hear each other. I’m going to hear what you hear, and you’re going to hear what I hear, and together we can celebrate the sounds of our lives. So listen up and listen well.”

– Excerpted from the *Missoulian*, Jan. 25

The friends and family of **John David Bailey**. He died Jan. 13 in Kalispell at age 71. Bailey was born Sept. 11, 1943, in Havre, and grew up in Eureka and Kalispell. He studied finance and music at The University of Montana, and was a cast member of a UM drama department production of “The Fantasticks,” which was performed at the Bigfork Summer Playhouse in 1963 and throughout eastern Asia that fall on a USO tour. He was awarded his Naval Flight Officer “Wings of Gold,” and was designated as a Radar Intercept Officer (RIO) during the Vietnam War. Although he spent most of his career in banking, he retained a lifelong love of music. He sang with the Great Falls Symphonic Choir, the Glacier Orchestra and Chorale, the Montana Chorale, the Missoula Mendelssohn Club and the Missoula Symphony Chorale. Highlights included concerts at the Sydney Opera House in Australia and the Musikverein in Vienna, and performances in Austria, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Czech Republic, New Zealand, and for the United States Bicentennial celebration at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. He often shared his beautiful baritone voice, singing “Danny Boy” on many occasions. He was a founding director of Paris Gibson Square in Great Falls and also served on the board of directors of the Daly Mansion in Hamilton, where he lived for many years.

– From the *Ravalli Republic*, Jan. 17



John David Bailey

## National Center for Creative Aging launches directory

The National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA) in Washington, DC, recently launched the Directory of Creative Aging Programs in America, available online at [creativeaging.org/programs-people/cad](http://creativeaging.org/programs-people/cad).

Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, MetLife Foundation, and The Michelson Foundation, the directory features arts programs serving older people. It includes intergenerational activities in urban, suburban, and rural communities in a variety of settings such as community centers, senior centers, assisted living, adult day care, arts institutions, and libraries.

It is also searchable by an assortment of options such as: location, arts discipline, program setting, and adaptive design, with the goals of enabling older adults to find programs, encouraging arts and aging organizations to find partners, and helping teaching artists to find employment with organizations committed to creative aging in their communities.

To be included in the directory or for more information, email [kfitzgerald@creativeaging.org](mailto:kfitzgerald@creativeaging.org).



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## Guidelines available for Artist in Schools and Communities FY16 Grants

Guidelines for the FY16 Artists in Schools and Communities program are now available on the MAC website, [www.art.mt.gov](http://www.art.mt.gov), for projects beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

The Artists in Schools and Communities program provides matching funds that support a wide range of arts learning experiences and artist residencies for participants of all ages with professional working artists, as well as other special projects that support arts learning in schools and community settings.

The deadline for all grant requests over \$1,500 in the Arts Learning Experience, Artist Residency, and Special Projects categories is **April 6, 2015**. Grant requests over \$1,500 submitted after the April 6 deadline will not be considered.

The deadline for all organizations in the Arts Learning Partner category only will be April 13, 2015.

For complete guidelines, go to [www.art.mt.gov](http://www.art.mt.gov). To discuss an idea for a potential arts learning project for your school or community, contact Emily Kohring, director of Arts Education, at 406-444-6522 or [ekohring@mt.gov](mailto:ekohring@mt.gov).

## ARTS EDUCATION

# Growing up Grandstreet “Creativity is a straight shot to innovation”

By Jill Roberts

*Jill Roberts grew up in Helena, where she was a student at Grandstreet Theatre School. She recently moved back to Helena after a successful career in theatre and the restaurant industry to open a new downtown business.*

*Jill recently spoke before a legislative committee about how her early education in the arts set the stage for her later career success. A version of her testimony is reprinted here:*

I am a product of one of Helena's most valuable resources: Grandstreet Theatre.

I moved back to Helena in July 2014 after spending 16 years in New York City and 10 years in Chicago. After graduating on a full scholarship with honors from the musical theatre conservatory at Roosevelt University, Chicago was my home base as I traveled around the country performing in regional theatres and with national tours.

At a certain point I outgrew Chicago and moved to the Big Apple, where I continued to make a living on the stage. Between gigs, I fed my other passion, food and wine, and when I finally tired of my life as a theatre gypsy, that world welcomed me with open arms.

I received my certification at the American Sommelier Association and had a successful career as a wine sommelier, running acclaimed wine programs at some of the city's top restaurants. I received national praise for my work with Moët-Hennessy, and was honored to be a repeat guest on the *New York Times* tasting panel “Wines of the Times.”

I can honestly say that my experience during my formative years at Grandstreet Theatre groomed me for success. Grandstreet gave me the tools not only to face the challenges of the big, bad and wonderful world; but also to get out and embrace it with open eyes, an open heart and an appreciation for the journey.



Grandstreet Theatre School students perform in “Annie.” (Photo by Jeff Downing)

When I started my involvement with Grandstreet as a child, the theatre was run by Janet and Don McLaughlin. Janet taught me how to sing to the back of the balcony and to “shuffle off to buffalo,” and she also instilled in me the mantra, “If you are not 10 minutes early, you are late.”

Don introduced me to all of the stock characters of the commedia dell'arte, and also taught me how to create a lighting plot. Those of us who put in extra hours in the shop would be invited to a Japanese sukiyaki dinner prepared by Don himself.

We were rewarded for hard work. Our instructors at Grandstreet Theatre School always made it clear to us that we were not there just to have fun. We were taught early on to be prepared. You got the part because you worked the hardest, not just because you were the most talented. Standards were high.

Grandstreet is (to this day) a serious theatre producing work of high production value. If you were too tall to be Helen Keller, or one of

Annie's orphans, you didn't get cast. And this was when you learned how to run concessions (handling money and managing inventory) and to run a spotlight.

We were made aware of our strengths and our weaknesses. We were taught to respect and take care of our bodies and to be in tune with our emotions and our feelings. At a young age we learned to accept criticism and master rejection.

Our instructors wanted us to be successful, well rounded, adults. In addition to stage skills, they taught us all life skills that many of us have carried into successful adulthood.

“Be kind,” to quote Marianne Adams, long-time director of education at Grandstreet, “talent doesn't matter if you are a jerk.”

We were very lucky as kids to have fantastic adult role models at Grandstreet, community actors and artists who not only had great talent, but also great character. We had no choice but to treat our elders, and each other, with a great amount of respect. Live theatre is a very vulnerable place and you can't survive up there alone. We had to trust each other.

I grew up in Helena. But I really grew up at Grandstreet Theatre. For many young people, it was a place where we could be ourselves, build self-confidence, and forge relationships that have lasted a lifetime. So many of my Grandstreet peers have gone on to become very successful people, all of whom would attribute their success to the great start they got at Grandstreet.

My new business in Helena, The Hawthorn Bottle Shop and Tasting Room, is a reflection of how the arts have had a significant impact on me in all aspects of my life. The arts nurture creativity. Creativity is a straight shot to innovation.

It's great to come home to Montana and be surrounded by such an extraordinary arts community.

## Gallery hosts juried art show for elementary students

Throughout the month of April, The Artists' Gallery in the Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture in Bozeman hosts its second annual Children's Art Show. This year's show features 2D and 3D art from the children at Morning Star Elementary in Bozeman. Approximately 55 pieces are chosen from the whole school, grades K-5, for the juried exhibit.

The children's show aims to give young artists an opportunity to experience their own art in a real gallery setting for a full month, complete with their own Art Walk and framing workshops.

Children frequently experience the process of creating art in the classroom with teachers



Owen Hodgson from Longfellow Elementary School proudly displays his work in last year's Children's Art Show.

and guest teachers. Rarely, however, do they get the opportunity to see the other end of the artistic journey and experience the gallery side of art.

Each child's piece is carefully framed and matted in a color and frame selected by the child. Professional artists help the kids put it all together, while stressing the importance of title and presentation.

Several pieces of children's art share panels with one or two “grown-up” artworks from the Artists' Gallery. “This has an interesting effect,” notes

coordinator Peggy Kohler. “Generally children go into galleries or museums where there are so many professional pieces that they are

overwhelmed. In this show, we noticed that the children actually see the ‘grown-up’ art more when it is paired with the art of their friends. The result is fascinating and truly exciting.”

The first Artists' Gallery elementary-school collaboration was in 2014 with Longfellow Elementary. “The response could not have been more positive,” says Kohler. “The students were thrilled to see their work on the gallery walls.”

The experience helps them understand the importance of the frame, presentation and titles of their works, and children have an opportunity to explain their art to viewers during the Art Walk.

The Artists' Gallery Children's Art Show hangs throughout April, so that the students can visit their work repeatedly and make sure their relatives and friends see it too.

“It is a wonderful show which brightens all of Bozeman for the non-springy month of April,” reports Kohler.

## Poetry Out Loud State Finals in Helena March 14

The Montana Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts present the Poetry Out Loud State Finals Saturday, March 14, at Grandstreet Theatre in Helena. Poetry Out Loud is a national recitation competition that encourages high school students to memorize and perform great poems.

This year, more than 80 Montana urban and rural high schools are participating in the Poetry Out Loud program. Each high school holds a school competition, with winners moving on to regional competitions



in Missoula and Butte. Finalists gather in Helena March 14 for the chance to become the state champion.

The Montana Poetry Out Loud champion

wins a trip, along with his or her teacher, to the 10th annual National Poetry Out Loud finals in Washington, DC, April 28-29. Participants also earn the chance to win college scholarships of up to \$20,000, as well as a library of poetry books for his or her school.

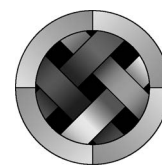
The state competition begins at 9 a.m. and is free and open to the public. There will be three rounds of competition, with the final round beginning at approximately 12:45 p.m.

For more information, contact Emily Kohring at the Montana Arts Council, 406-444-6522 or [ekohring@mt.gov](mailto:ekohring@mt.gov).

## ARTS EDUCATION

## Art Smart

Art classes rarely schools' top priority, yet research suggests they should be



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By Sarah Shelton

Reprinted with permission from  
*State Legislatures* magazine

On a sunny spring afternoon in northeast Denver, Celesta Cairns' third graders at Cole Arts and Science Academy are working in groups with professional musicians to orchestrate a concert from start to finish. Sixty-three young composers are making sounds from keyboards and drums to "illustrate" the stories they have just written.

"What I like best is getting to work with my friends to make up a story," says Matt, age 9, one of the young composers. "It was fun to make up a story with some friends.

Our story was about three sharks called 'Fred's Adventures.' But it was way more interesting when we got to add music to it."

The professional musicians in the Colorado Symphony's Very Young Composers program transcribe the sounds the kids make into real musical notes, and at the end of the school year perform the compositions. The concert attracts parents and children who rarely, if ever, attend musical performances or go to the theater. For many of Matt's classmates, this was the first time they or their families had ever been to a symphony.

Cole Elementary is used to receiving more attention for its failures than for its successes. It has a history of lagging test scores and low attendance rates, for example. It serves a low-income, minority student population – 73 percent are Hispanic, 18 percent are African American, and 93 percent qualify for a free or reduced lunch, a federal program based on family income.

After a number of leadership and management changes, the school reopened in 2008, and was granted "innovation status" by the state to come up with new, effective ways to meet the needs of its diverse and constantly changing student population. In return, the state granted the school leaders more autonomy.

The school launched the Very Young Composers program this year with its third graders. It plans to expand the program next year by adding 25 fourth graders.

A cohesive team of educators at the school teaches visual arts, music, physical education and dance, along with the librarian, who offers creative storytelling, and a

technology teacher for sound engineering. They collaborate daily and discuss the kids and what they are learning. And, they are all certified to teach English language learners.

"We have an incredible team that focuses on culture and creating community, traditions and space for kids to feel safe and creative," says Cairns, a veteran music teacher who was instrumental in getting the young composers program into the school.

All students at Cole receive arts instruction daily and are never pulled out of art classes for more reading or math. "The freedom to make decisions at the

school level regarding budget, hiring, curriculum and professional development has been extremely useful," says Cairns. "I've made it my focus to ensure the arts get as much attention as math, English and science classes."

The Very Young Composers program is funded by a private foundation and a local philanthropist. The program, which pairs professional musicians with school, is thriving in New York City public schools in partnership with the New York Philharmonic and is slowly finding its way into other urban areas. It's a perfect partnership between the arts community, which has experienced a decline in patrons, and schools that lack art programs due to limited resources.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, 42 percent of schools indicated they had partnerships with cultural or community organizations to help meet their school's arts education goals.

**Show me the evidence**

Decades of research shows that participation in the arts – music, visual arts, dance or drama/theatre – can lead to higher levels of self-confidence, persistence, civic engagement, creativity, problem-solving ability, and critical thinking skills in students. Moreover, the benefits of an arts education are more dramatic in schools where family income and achievement levels are very low.

The evidence from numerous studies has convinced many education professionals and policymakers to value arts as a critical component of a complete education. Even

so, supporters face challenges in providing a high-quality program when funding is tight, other concerns take precedence, and qualified instructors are few and far between.

That's where legislators come in. Their support can be vital.

"When times get hard, arts instruction should not be seen as a frill," says South Carolina Senator Wes Hayes (R), a member of the Education Committee. "Art is an important part of education – it's critical and needed, and legislators should provide a safeguard."

Hayes, who also co-chairs South Carolina's Legislative Arts Caucus, says, "The arts are a significant part of keeping businesses and recruiting and retaining talented workers. Legislators can tell that story and remind other legislators about the importance of the arts."

Ninety-three percent of Americans consider the arts essential to a well-rounded education, according to a 2005 Harris Poll. And 79 percent agree that incorporating the arts into the curriculum is the first step.

During the 2009-2010 school year, 94 percent of elementary schools offered music instruction and 83 percent offered visual art, such as drawing, painting and sculpture, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

And although "the percentages of students receiving music and visual arts instruction are quite high, there are literally millions of students who receive nothing," says Sandra Ruppert, director of the Arts Education Partnership at the Council of Chief State School Officers.

The students receiving little to no arts education tend to be concentrated in low-income areas and include students with special needs and English language learners. Ruppert points out that, while students from poorer schools have the least high-quality exposure to the arts, "the research suggests those kids tend to benefit the most from arts education."

**Continued on next page**

"The arts are a significant part of keeping businesses and recruiting and retaining talented workers. Legislators can tell that story and remind other legislators about the importance of the arts."

– South Carolina Sen. Wes Hayes (R)

**VSA Montana presents workshops on autism and the arts**

VSA Montana, the state organization on arts and disability, in partnership with the Montana Arts Council, will present "Working in the Arts with Children on the Autism Spectrum," a workshop for teachers, paraprofessionals, teaching artists, and arts organization staff.

The workshop will include a discussion of characteristics and behaviors of children on the autism spectrum and interventions to help engage learners in the classroom setting. Brett Gilleo, LLC of Big Sky Therapeutic Services in Great Falls, who works extensively with children on the spectrum, will lead this session.

Marlene Schumann, an experienced arts educator who specializes in assessment strategies for learners of all abilities, leads a second offering that focuses on visual arts activities. These are designed to develop communication skills, increase social interactions and support the creative participation of children on the autism spectrum.

This workshop is free for participants and will be offered in two locations:

**Fergus High School Art Room, Lewistown:** 4:30-7:30 p.m.

March 13 and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. March 14; and

**Castle Rock Middle School Library, Billings:** 4:30-7:30 p.m. March 20 and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. March 21.

For details, visit [www.vsamontana.org/professional-development/](http://www.vsamontana.org/professional-development/).

## Registration nears for Teaching Artists Weekend

The Montana Teaching Artist Weekend, a professional development and networking opportunity for teaching artists serving schools and communities across Montana, is April 17-18 at the Holter Museum of Art in Helena. Teaching artists fill a critical need for arts education for learners young and old in the Big Sky. Join the Montana Arts Council and Holter Museum of Art in Helena for a professional development opportunity that will help you sharpen your skills as an artist, educator and advocate for high-quality arts education for all Montana students.

This opportunity is open to teaching artists of all disciplines who provide hands-on learning experiences to learners in school, after school, and in non-traditional learning environments.

The weekend kicks off with an opening reception Friday night at the Holter Museum of Art with keynote speaker David Spear of A Voice. Spear is a teaching artist who has worked with students over the past decade at Two Eagle River School in Pablo, recording the stories of their community through photography. The reception will include oppor-

tunities for teaching artists to network, with refreshments and no-host beer and wine.

Saturday's agenda includes:

• **The Arts and Cognition with Lorrie Heagy**, 8:30-11:30 a.m.: Heagy is an elementary music teacher in Juneau, AK, and director of Music Matters (JAMM), an El Sistema-inspired program that provides string instruction for students. She is the 2011 Alaska Teacher of the Year, and her program at Glacier Valley Elementary earned the Kennedy Center's Creative Ticket National School of Distinction Award.

She'll offer a lively, interactive workshop for teaching artists of all disciplines on how learning in, and through, the arts impacts the brain. Topics include the arts and the brain, marketing your skills, and building strong school and community partnerships.

Two afternoon breakout sessions (12:45-1:45 p.m. and again from 2-3 p.m.):

• **The Arts and Healthcare with Youpa Stein and guests:** Stein, program director of Living Art of Montana, will discuss the organization's work in the expanding field of the arts and healthcare, a growing area of oppor-

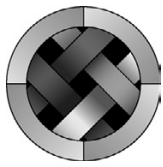
tunity for teaching artists, and share experiences of using artistic expression as a way of healing.

• **Expanding Your Online Presence with Janaina Vieira-Marques:** Want to build a website, but don't know where to start? Not sure how to make the best use of technology to market your skills as a teaching artist? Teaching artist Vieira-Marques will offer some great resources and tricks to boost your online presence and help make more people aware of the great work you do.

The workshop closes with an Open Space, where participants suggest topics or questions they are interested in exploring, and self-select the discussions they would like to join.

Registration is free, but limited to 40 total participants. Lodging will be available at the discounted state rate to all participants.

For more information, check the MAC website at [www.art.mt.gov](http://www.art.mt.gov) or contact Emily Kohring at [ekohring@mt.gov](mailto:ekohring@mt.gov).



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## EmcArts launches Community Innovation Labs

In an exciting new approach to community change, the New York-based EmcArts will work alongside three communities as they take on some of their most complex social challenges.

Community Innovation Labs are designed to leave a legacy of new civic muscle, including stronger networks, shared capacity for cross-sector innovation, and more effective integration of art and artists into community change efforts. To this work, EmcArts bring over 10 years of success in designing and managing Innovation Labs across the cultural and non-profit sector.

EmcArts is looking for communities that have a track record of shared problem-solving, a sense of urgency and desire to address difficult challenges, and a commitment to non-traditional approaches. An informational webinar is available from 2-3 p.m. March 5 (EST) for interested parties and three invitations will be extended in May to develop pilot labs later this year.

Contact Richard Evans (REvans@EmcArts.org) to learn more.

# Art Smart (from previous page)

## Where's the money?

Arts programs are often the first to be squeezed. "There are many signs that funding for the arts has declined steadily since passage of the No Child Left Behind Act in 2001," says Narric Rome, vice president of Government Affairs and Arts Education at Americans for the Arts. "Financial pressures at the state and local levels have exacerbated the trend. The focus on tested subjects like reading, math and science has led to a narrowing of the curriculum."

A new report by the New York City Comptroller's Office, for example, found that, despite requirements in state law, arts education in New York City's public schools has become both inequitable and underfunded. There's been a 47 percent decline in spending on arts and cultural organizations, and an even steeper decline in spending on arts supplies and equipment over the past seven years. And many schools have diverted supplemental arts funding to other areas.

The report also found that reductions in arts education have been greater in lower income neighborhoods. In July, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and School Chancellor Carmen Farina announced their support of a \$23 million initiative to expand arts education in the city's schools and training for arts teachers.

Although arts engagement and funding vary considerably across states and communities, Minnesota and South Carolina are two states bucking the trend. Minnesota Senator Richard Cohen (DFL), a member of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, is a huge proponent of the arts.

"Education, rather than income level, is the common denominator," he says. "Arts education makes a difference, clearly," he adds, citing research that links arts education to increases in student attendance and parent involvement, and decreases in discipline problems.

As chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Cohen made sure the arts were included in the 2008 Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment that designates 0.375 percent of the state's sales tax for 25 years to fund the arts, arts education and access to the arts to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage.

In South Carolina, lawmakers have embraced the importance of arts education since passing the Education Improvement Act of 1984. Arts education has been included in a number of key legislative initiatives since then.

This year, for example, lawmakers passed the "Read to Succeed" law that, among other things, requires school districts to include state and local arts organizations when developing partnerships. In 2013, with support from Senator Hayes, the General Assembly also passed a \$1 million reoccurring appropriation to help fund the Arts in Basic Curriculum Project and other South Carolina Arts Commission grant-funded programs statewide.

"The arts community can be a partner and

a resource in increasing literacy," says Ken May, executive director of the South Carolina Arts Commission. "Everyone needs to take part in educating our children, including the arts community."

## Support comes in many forms

In addition to funding, there are several ways in which states can support a high-quality arts education. A recent report from the Arts Education Partnership offers a snapshot of the different policies states have adopted to support arts education.

- **Core Academic Subject:** 27 states define the arts as a "core" or "academic" subject, consistent with federal policy, which puts the arts on equal footing with other core subjects considered essential to a well-rounded education.

- **State Standards:** 49 states and the District of Columbia define what elementary and secondary students should know and be able to do after receiving instruction in the arts. In addition, 44 states and the District of Columbia have adopted art standards for early childhood education.

- **Instructional Requirements:** Most of the states that have adopted art standards also regulate instruction: 45 states define instructional requirements for elementary and middle schools, and 44 states do so for high schools.

- **High School Graduation Requirements:** 25 states and the District of Columbia include the arts in graduation requirements.

- **Assessment and Accountability:** 17 states require assessments of students learning the arts.

- **Teacher Requirements:** 43 states and the District of Columbia require classroom teachers to complete coursework or demonstrate knowledge of the arts to receive certification or licensure, and 34 states and the District of Columbia specify arts requirements for non-arts teachers.

## Encore!

Back in Denver, teacher Celesta Cairns credits Cole's success with the Very Young Composers program not only to her supportive team of teachers, but also to her principal, who values and shelters time daily for arts education.

"Participating in the arts offers an important additional component to the rigorous academic day," says Cairns. "There are no boundaries, no right or wrong, with art. It pushes up students' confidence and gives them the opportunity to think outside the box. Sometimes there is no space for this kind of learning in the classroom."

## Americans for the Arts

For the past nine years, Americans for the Arts and the National Conference of State Legislatures have recognized state legislators whose leadership has heightened public

"Participating in the arts offers an important additional component to the rigorous academic day ... It pushes up students' confidence and gives them the opportunity to think outside the box. Sometimes there is no space for this kind of learning in the classroom."  
– Celesta Cairns, teacher at Cole Arts and Science Academy, Denver

awareness of the value of the arts and arts education to their states. Minnesota Senator Richard Cohen (DFL) and South Carolina Senator Wes Hayes (R) are past award recipients.

In addition, Americans for the Arts recently launched its State Policy Pilot Program to:

- Strengthen arts by advancing state policy;
- Expand states' support and funding of arts education policy; and
- Increase the availability of arts programs at the local level.

The group will be working with 10 states – Arizona, Arkansas, California, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Wyoming – during the three-year pilot program. Collaborative teams consisting of representatives from a variety of state agencies, including the legislature, will receive customized technical assistance to write an action plan and manage a grant of \$10,000 each year.

## The Wallace Foundation

"Engaging with the arts can help children develop broader perspectives of the world by introducing them to different ways of understanding their own experiences and those of others," says Lucas Held, the communications director at the Wallace Foundation.

Since 2005, Wallace has been working with nonprofits and select school districts to overcome the decline in public school arts education that began in the late 1970s and engage more young people in the arts, during the school day and beyond. The foundation works with large, national "youth-serving" organizations to develop an array of arts programs local affiliates can offer children when they are not in school. It has also published a report on how to engage teens in cyberspace with digital art-making technology.

In addition, the Wallace Foundation has funded several efforts in urban areas to introduce more and stronger classroom arts instruction, and is supporting the Boston Public Schools' Arts Expansion Initiative and Dallas' Thriving Minds effort. Both are national models of "coordinated approaches" to improving arts education by knitting together the efforts of several groups, including school districts, city agencies and cultural organizations.

**About the author:** Sara Shelton is a former NCSL education policy specialist. This article was reprinted from the Oct./Nov. 2014 issue of *State Legislatures* magazine, with permission from the National Conference of State Legislatures. The magazine and subscription information are available at [www.ncsl.org/magazine](http://www.ncsl.org/magazine).

# Humanities Montana lists recent grant recipients

Humanities Montana recently awarded more than \$26,000 to organizations and communities for programs focused on bringing the humanities to Montana citizens, from community celebrations and reading series to significant lecture series.

Among the recipients:

- **"Our Stories: Diversity Week at Hellgate High School,"** \$500 to the Flagship Program, Missoula, to support presentations and workshops that promote acceptance and respect of others through storytelling.

- **MLK Day Community Celebration,** \$500 to the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI), Missoula, for a day of events and dialogue around issues of equality.

- **Winter Reading Series,** \$483.60 to the Havre-Hill County Library, Havre, for a reading series that encourages critical thinking and lifelong learning.

- **Shakespeare Behind Bars,** \$500 to the Montana State University Prison Project in

Bozeman for a 10-week course on Shakespeare. Incarcerated adult men will study and compare their diverse life tragedies and experiences to those in Shakespeare's plays.

- **Determining the Future of UM Native American Ethnographic and Art Collection,** \$3,400 to The University of Montana Department of Anthropology, Missoula, for the development of a long-term plan for UM's Native American ethnographic, art, and artifact collection.

- **Work Through My Lens,** \$5,000 to the Missoula organization for an interactive, touring exhibit documenting the stories and images of food-service workers in Montana.

- **"The Next America: How Millennials Are Changing Everything,"** \$5,000 to Flathead Valley Community College, Kalispell, for a five-part lecture series that explores the social, political, economic, and religious changes in America as the values of the under-30 crowd gain cultural prominence.

- **TEDxUMontana,** \$5,000 to The University of Montana, Missoula, for a day of TEDx talks that focuses on language and how language shapes human interactions, held Feb. 20 at the UM Dennison Theater and distributed throughout the state.

- **Global Connections International Education Day** featuring Academic World-Quest, \$700 to the World Affairs Council of Montana, Missoula, for a full day of international programming for Montana high school students, including a foreign film discussion, a conversation with Ambassador Mark Johnson, a foreign student roundtable, and an international affairs competition.

- **47th annual Fort Belknap Mid-Winter Fair,** \$1,000 for playwright William Yellow Robe to lead playwriting workshops for students in area schools.

Learn more about Humanities Montana programs and grant deadlines at [humanities-montana.org](http://humanities-montana.org).

## ABOUT MUSIC – By Mariss McTucker

### Tahj: *Sweatshop Sneakers* Recorded at Club Shmed Studio and Paradigm Shift Studios, Missoula, MT, and at BellTone Studios, Los Angeles; mixed and mastered by Max Allyn, 2014.

Missoula songwriter Tahj Bo Kjelland grew up around family musicians, so he easily gravitated toward performing. On this second album he expresses himself on hip-hop pieces with reggae and R&B influences. All are self-penned except the chorus to “Lulu Love.”

Kjelland plays bass and is accompanied by a cadre of other instrumentalists: Sam Ore and Yabba Griffiths, guitar; Ryan Means, keys; Kyle Gillet, trombone; Dylan Dwyer, alto sax; Mike Hamling, trumpet; and Brandon Zimmer and Ras Congo, drums. Margi Cates, Penelope Baquero, and Diego Kjelland all add vocals.

Kjelland starts off the short “Mountain Skies” playing haunting flute; the tune then morphs into a gospel-flavored call-and-response with a crowd. “Alchemy” has a struttin’ tempo with a cool horn section bubbling underneath, and a torrent of lyrics.

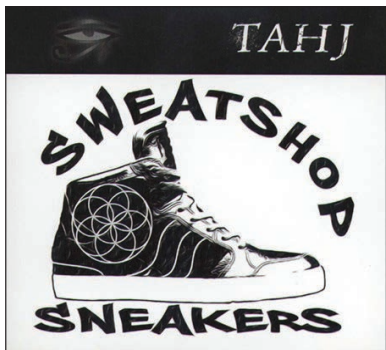
Fuzzed-out vocal effects, loads of reverb, and island ambience infuse the gentle “Stop Drop and Roll.” Kjelland, seemingly channeling Bob Marley, has a versatile baritone that moves all around the verses.

“44 Degrees” has a nice chord progression and rapid-fire lyrics (“When you get a chance why don’t you give a little bit of energy for the people to dance”).

The most unusual piece is “I Cry Str8.” At just under a minute long, it’s got a cool drumbeat and mantra-like mm-mmms underneath the words. Kjelland voices a hypnotic, repeated “I cry, I cry, oh baby, I cry,” that follows lines such as “... tears for the ones unjustly in chains ...”

This song is an example of Kjelland’s musical mission to speak out against oppression in all its forms, and its simplicity brings home the message. You’ll dance when you turn up this recording.

Find out more about the artist on Facebook.



### Bill Mize: *The Back of Beyond*

Recorded by Bill Mize at Alien-Mojo Studios, Pittman Center, TN; mixed and mastered by Neal Merrick Blackwood, Nashville, TN; produced by Bill Mize, 2014.

Grammy-winning fingerstyle guitarist and Missoula resident Bill Mize gives us 10 tunes on this, his sixth album, nine of which he wrote.

His wife, musician Beth Bramhall, plays accordion.

The Tennessee native, a past winner of the elite Winfield, Kansas national guitar competition, has been pickin’ since he was almost a toddler. When he saw Elvis on TV at the age of 3 or 4, he knew then music was going to be his life’s calling.

Save for Astor Piazzolla’s “Milonga del Angel,” with its soft and sweet Parisian ambience (thanks in part to Bramhall’s accordion stylings), Mize believes this recording evokes more of the flavor of the mountain music he was raised on than past efforts.

“Joe Pye Jig” has a folk-song elegance, rippling with an old-time sound. “Every Dog Has His Day” brandishes a relaxing waltz feel, and “The Captain’s Friend” percolates with a country-blues nuance, percussively snapping its way through a dissonant melody. Mize’s unmistakable approach and brilliant tone are in fine form here.

The title tune, “The Back of Beyond,” has a silky melody, replete with harmonic pings and a light touch. The sound of crickets introduces the hypnotic “A Child of God,” and “Call Pick” simply rocks.

Consummate fretwork, rolling and expressive, peppers the crisp and jazzy “Romancing the Tone.” It’s one of Mize’s old flat-picking tunes that he decided to play as a fingerstyle number. Cool song title, yes?

Mize’s nimble proficiency, so effortless and melodic, is something we take for granted until we start to wonder how the heck he does that. No matter. Just enjoy. Visit [www.billmize.com](http://www.billmize.com).

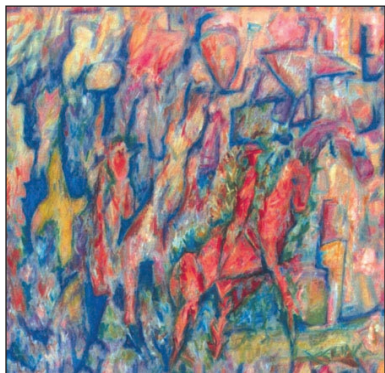


### Doug Wendt: *Ghost Town Sound*

Recorded at Bongo Boy Studio, McKinleyville, CA, Hollow Bone Studio, Rexburg, ID, Tuff Gong Studios, Kingston, Jamaica, and studios in London; co-produced by Doug Wendt and Jimmy Foot, 2014.

Black Eagle multi-media artist and University of Great Falls art instructor Doug Wendt and his band have released their first recording. It melds native legends, Montana landscapes, and spooky lyrics, set to a funky island beat.

Wendt is joined here by long-time cohorts Jimmy Foot, guitar/keys, Doug Sternberg, bass and native flute, Steven Powell, drums and jaw harp, and Marc Wendt, guitar. Wendt provides guitar, percussion and main vocals, while most of his sidekicks, including Cat Wendt, supply background vocals. Many other musicians contribute, too.



Wendt wrote or co-wrote more than half the songs, and his spectral interpretations stir the dust of forlorn and long-deserted western towns. But his vision goes beyond geographical boundaries, encompassing a world threatening to disappear like the barren towns, nay, civilizations of yore, due to humanity’s excesses.

Wendt’s throaty gravel-bed baritone almost whispers the story-songs. Echos and wolf sounds introduce “Ohtahku,” about the great falls of the Missouri. Wendt extols the magical, ethereal “ghost town sound” of the falls, long-silenced by a dam, yet reincarnated through music.

Native singing and a palpitating drumbeat introduce Sherman Alexie’s creation poem, “Crow Testament.” Wendt speaks the words over a Jamaican rock track. His “Auditor” has a stark, apocalyptic ambience married to a perky cadence; a throbbing tempo and sustained guitar riff punctuate this tale of Butte’s toxic Berkeley Pit.

Wendt weaves Leonard Cohen’s “Fingerprints” into Stan Jones’s melody, “Ghost Riders in the Sky,” to shuffly comic effect; and Neil Young’s “Boxcar” gets a syncopated and thunky train-track treatment as Wendt sings in hushed tones.

This album is definitely ghostly, and definitely different. Visit [www.ghost-townsound.com](http://www.ghost-townsound.com).

### MudSlide Charley: *New and Used*

Recorded by Ryan Maynes at Club Shmed Studio, Missoula, MT; produced by MudSlide Charley, 2014.

These Missoula bluesmeisters have a third recording on the streets. When you listen to these guys, you get to the marrow of the Delta blues. It’s visceral and rough-hewn, yet polished at the same time – accomplished, in part, by superb production.

We’ve got Missoula blues icon Phil Hamilton, harmonicas, saxophones, and percussion; Marco Littig, guitar; Emi Kodama, percussion; Tahj Kjelland, bass; and Roger Moquin, drums and percussion. Everyone contributes vocals, and Kodama and Littig burn up the soundwaves with their lead singing. The band collaborated on the songwriting, except for one cover.

“One Step Ahead of the Blues” opens with dirge-y, amped-up guitar and trembling harmonica; forthwith, Kodama proceeds to torch the lyrics. She possesses a fine instrument, pretty and malleable.

Littig growls his way through “Why Baby Why,” sharing lead vocals with Kodama, as honkin’ sax joins the guitar in a cool riff. The rockin’ “Sweet Nostalgia” possesses a New Orleans R&B flair; Kodama belts it out as backing vocalists answer her with a soulful “Don’t keep me waitin’ on you.”

“When the Bottom Drops Out” has a wicked guitar vibe and a sexy, rock-steady beat. How about “Ice Water”? Littig’s raucous, smoldering pipes combine Bob Dylan and Tom Waits nuances, set to muscular harmonica and a struttin’ drumbeat.

You’ll emancipate your hips to J. B. Lenoir’s “Feeling Good,” a finger-poppin’ snapper replete with Littig’s bottleneck slide guitar, a cappella singing, and some solo bass and drum work. Moquin and Kodama trade lead vocals on this cover piece.

“Living for Another Day” is a bit spooky; Kjelland embellishes it with some of his signature rap lyrics. Their liner notes describe them as playing in such a way as to “make the limbs feel looser.” And it’s true: these folks will definitely get you movin’.

Vist the group at [www.reverbnation.com/mudslidecharley](http://www.reverbnation.com/mudslidecharley).



### Jacob Robert Stephens: *The Sun Beyond the Storm*

Engineered by Ryan “Shmed” Maynes at Club Shmed Studio in Missoula, MT, and Chris Malmberg at MO Studios, Fairbanks, AK; produced by Jacob Robert Stephens, 2014.

Singer/songwriter Jacob Robert Stephens, who splits his time between Troy and Missoula, continues to cast his poetic eye on the character and temperament of those living a hardscrabble rural life. His second album, with eight originals and two covers, follows 2012’s *Here Comes Hindsight*.

The troubadour grew up in northwest Montana and spent several years in Alaska, so weather plays prevalently as a metaphor in his folk poems. His figures endure chilly sunsets and cold lonely nights, and nurse broken hearts poked to bleeding by remembering old love affairs. The wistful story-songs are perfectly suited to his sandy baritone, and he unravels his tales over pretty melodies.

As usual, Stephens plays gobs of instruments here: guitars, mandolin, harmonica, ukulele, and drums. He has ample help from compadres Ryan Maynes, piano, drums, accordion and bass; Gibson Hartwell, pedal steel; Grace Decker, fiddle; Andy Dunnigan, Dobro; Jacob David Hurley, upright bass; and Roger Moquin on drums. Stephens sings harmony to many of his own leads, and gets vocal accompaniment from Brooke Sheridan and Jared Betz as well.

“Circles” is a good slow dancer. Sheridan shares lead vocals on “The Auction,” a glum yet melodic tale of a couple taking the final step before separation – splitting up their possessions.

“The Place Between” is an uplifting barnburner with sawin’ fiddle and wacky, wiggly Dobro. “What in the world am I to do, weekends ain’t enough for lovin’ you ... where’s the place in between?”

“Carousel” is a love-struck duet, a ballad with a pretty ’60s chord progression and cool vocal interplay between Sheridan and Stephens.

This guy is adept at writing good songs in country and folk styles, and has the chops to pull it off. You can find him on Facebook.



## State of the Arts welcomes CDs

*State of the Arts* welcomes CD submissions by Montana musicians for inclusion in the About Music section. The recordings must be professional, commercially available, full-length CDs, with cover art and liner notes. Brief biographical information on band members would be helpful to the writer.

Please send submissions to either the Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT, 59620; or *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824.



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## How to submit a book for *State of the Arts*

To submit a book by a Montana author for inclusion in *State of the Arts*' "About Books" section:

Please send a copy of the book to *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824; or submit the following information electronically to [wroteus@livelytimes.com](mailto:wroteus@livelytimes.com) or [mac@mt.gov](mailto:mac@mt.gov):

- Title, author, publisher, publisher's address and month/year published;
- Price and whether it's hard- or softcover;
- A brief description of the book (no more than 200 words), and a short bio of the author;
- A cover image: minimum 200 dpi in pdf, jpg or tiff file;
- If other publications or authors have reviewed the book, send a brief sampling of those remarks.

If you would like us to return the book, include a note with it saying so. (We will pay for shipping.)

E-books: We'll also mention books that are only electronically published: send title, author, a cover image, website for downloads, and a brief paragraph about the book.

Books submitted to *State of the Arts* appear in this publication at the Montana Arts Council's discretion and as space permits, and will not necessarily be reprinted in *Lively Times*.

## ABOUT BOOKS

### ***Fire Birds, Valuing Natural Wildfires and Burned Forests***

By Sneed B. Collard III  
Published 2014 by Bucking Horse Books, Missoula, MT  
\$17 hardcover

In his latest work, award-winning science author Sneed Collard seeks to shift the way the public views the charred landscape that is left after a wildfire sweeps through a forest.

"More than 15 kinds of birds prefer to nest in burned forests," notes University of Montana biologist Dick Hutto, whom Collard consulted for this book. Wildfires can be very devastating when humans and their dwellings are affected, but fire can be extremely beneficial to the health of a forest by eliminating dangerous accumulations of fallen trees and other excess fuels. The seeds of some shrubs and trees become activated only after exposure to fire.

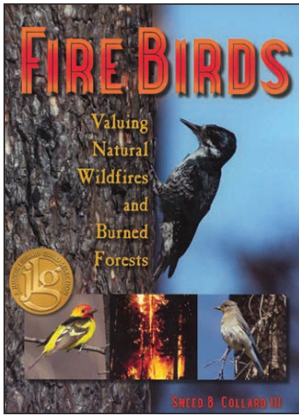
The author tells us that one of the first birds to appear in a newly burned forest is the Black-backed Woodpecker. What's the attraction? Seems that "within hours of a forest fire, legions of wood-boring beetles descend on the burned forest," and thus become a tasty food source for woodpeckers, as well as robins, mountain bluebirds, Clark's nutcracker, and others.

He notes that advances in fire science and wildfire management are changing the public's attitude towards the benefits to the ecosystem that fire can bring. "It is good for the soul to walk into a burned forest," writes Collard. "Most people don't realize how alive it truly is!"

The book is printed in large type, easy enough for young readers and interesting for all ages. Beautiful color photographs of birds and scenes, many taken by the author, illustrate the work throughout.

The Missoula resident has written 65 books for young readers and received numerous awards, including the *Washington Post*-Children's Book Guild Non-fiction Award for his body of work. Visit [www.sneedbcollardiii.com](http://www.sneedbcollardiii.com) for more information.

— Judy Shafter



### ***Shadowboxing***

By Mark Gibbons  
Published 2014 by FootHills Publishing, Kanona, NY  
\$16 softcover

Ever wonder what goes on in the brain of a poet? *Shadowboxing*, by Mark Gibbons, is like pulling on a headset and hearing "the rhythmic beat of music/ pounding the ear ... the heart/thump lapping at the shore ..."

The latest collection by the Missoula poet veers between rage and reflection. It is, after all, a compendium of loss: "The older we get, the more we hold./ all those souls who've left us behind./ We carry their stories, their voices ..."

It's a weight Gibbons shoulders well. Several poems chronicle the last days of Ed Lahey, "the old miner king of poetry," others remember Richard Brautigan, dead since 1984, and the poet's Irish grandfather and his uncle Paul, "waltzing in the dining room/ in a cloud of flour dust/ with the wiry haired girl of his dreams." Others evoke the obscenity of war, the last gasps of his hometown of Alberton.

Still, he leaves lots of breathing room for the living, desire, dancing to Taj Mahal, the simple pleasure of drinking a beer, a Sunday in May, "a gargle/ of air, a flutter of blood, the body/ language we love and know as 'here.'"

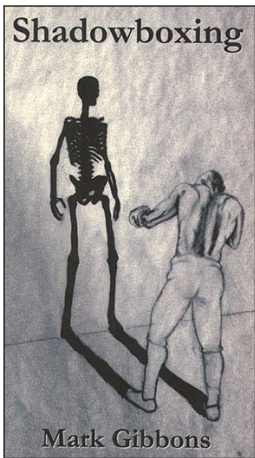
In "Just the Facts – About Poetry," he reports, "nobody buys it/ nobody reads it/ but everybody agrees/ it's really 'important.'"

I know why I read it: for the slivers of sanity and solace that someone like Gibbons delivers. The reminder "that we best/ honor being alive by living ..."

"The term shadowboxing implies awareness of the present, preparation for what lies immediately ahead, and the practice that maintains a fighter's rhythm," writes Montana Poet Laureate Tami Haaland. "Gibbons' rhythm, both earthy and elegant in this volume, is well suited to the task."

Gibbons lives in Missoula where he teaches poetry and drives a delivery truck. He's the author of eight collections of poetry and received an Artist's Innovation Award from the Montana Arts Council in 2013.

— Kristi Niemeyer

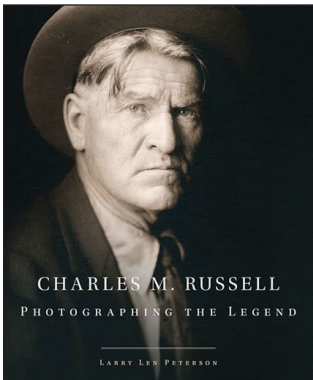


### ***Charles M. Russell, Photographing the Legend***

By Larry Len Peterson, foreword by Brian W. Dippie  
Published 2014 by the University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, OK  
\$60 hardcover; \$350 leatherbound

Almost as familiar as the images of the American West he painted and sculpted is the figure of Charles M. Russell himself. Standing or mounted, in boots and wide-brimmed hat, sash knotted at his waist, gaze steady under a hank of unruly hair: he is the one and only "Cowboy Artist."

What is not so well known is the story that unfolds in the myriad photographs of Russell, pictures that document a remarkable life while also reflecting the evolution of photography and the depiction of the American West at the turn of the 20th century. This biography by Montana native Larry Len Peterson makes use of hundreds of images of Russell, many never before published, to explore the role of photography in shaping the artist's public image and the making and selling of his art. More than that, the book shows how the Cowboy Artist personified what he portrayed.



Peterson traces Russell's image and his career from his first adventures, arriving in Helena from St. Louis as a teenager, to his apotheosis as an artist, and then to his California period and his final days as the grand statesman of the American West. Along the way we meet some of the most interesting photographers of the era, as Russell posed for Edward S. Curtis, Roland Reed, Clarence S. Bull, and Dorothea Lange, among others. Because Nancy Russell used photographs to promote her artist husband's career and artistic identity, we also see the medium's early application as a marketing tool in the hands of a surprisingly savvy businesswoman.

Alongside Peterson's engrossing tale of the life of this American icon, the hundreds of photographs of Russell, his friends, family members, business associates, colleagues, and celebrities of his time offer a unique view of the artist's historic and cultural milieu – a view at once panoramic and intimate.

Peterson, a native of Plentywood, is an acknowledged expert on art and art history of the American West. Brian W. Dippie, who wrote the foreword, is considered the leading authority on Russell.

"Captivating from cover to cover ... Highly recommended," writes *Midwest Book Review*.

### ***Tucker's Seasonal Words of Wisdom***

By Lynn Campion, illustrated by Theodore Waddell  
Published 2014 by Bar R Books, Helena, MT  
\$16.95 hardcover

Montana/Idaho painter and sculptor Theodore Waddell is best known for his "landscapes with animals," vast canvases that bring together western subject matter (Black Angus cattle, sheep, horses, and the occasional bison) and the painterly approach of Abstract Expressionism.

On the side, Waddell makes drawings of things he loves, especially Bernese Mountain Dogs.

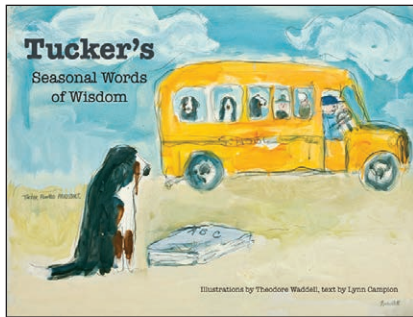
Now Waddell and his wife, Lynn Campion, introduce readers to another delightful children's book in the "Tucker" series: *Tucker's Seasonal Words of Wisdom*. The 80-page book features 32 full-color illustrations detailing the adventures of five large and loveable Bernese Mountain Dogs.

Waddell has lavishly illustrated this second volume of his "Tucker" series (the first, *Tucker Gets Tuckered*, came out in 2006), and Campion contributes the lively text.

The narrative follows the Bernese Mountain Dog and his fellow Berners as they lead the reader through a year of fun and exploration in the Northern Rockies, experiencing the joys associated with each season, all the while sharing their uplifting brand of canine wisdom.

As one reader wrote of Waddell's earlier book, "The story is fun for kids, but also rings true for all adults who have ever had a dog. And the illustrations are world class."

Waddell is an internationally known artist, and a long-time participant in the U.S. State Department's Art in Embassies program; his paintings are currently featured in the Beijing residence of U.S. Ambassador to China Max Baucus. His work is shown in museums and galleries throughout the United States and can be found in private and public collections around the world. Campion is a photographer, author and accomplished horsewoman. The couple divides their time between homes in Sheridan, MT and Hailey, ID.



### ***Painted Horses***

By Malcolm Brooks  
Published 2014 by Grove Atlantic, New York, NY  
\$25 hardcover

Prepare to disappear into this galloping, utterly engrossing debut by Missoula author Malcolm Brooks.

It's 1956, and fledgling archaeologist Catherine Lemay is hired to look for artifacts in an unexplored canyon on the edge of the Crow Reservation. She takes on a young Crow woman, Miriam, as her assistant, and with a reluctant, edgy guide, who hunted mustangs and Nazis, they begin to explore a canyon that's "fifty miles long and deeper than Satan's own appetites." Their mission is to unearth historical sites and artifacts before a dam is erected at its mouth.

Reared in the East and schooled in London, exhuming Roman artifacts after the Blitz, she now finds herself in an unforgiving landscape, both vast and alien. The story twines together her earnest and often dangerous escapade, and the mysterious John H, a canyon dweller who possesses an uncanny kinship with horses and an artist's knack for isolating "beauty from the terror of existence."

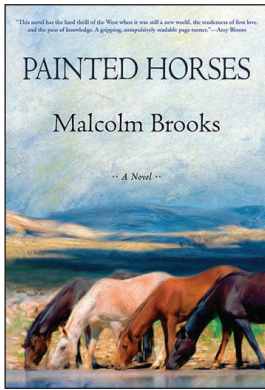
So many streams come together here: archaeology, the ravages and aftermath of World War II, and the grandeur and austerity of eastern Montana. All of it is made personal and compelling by the enigmatic artist, the spirited archaeologist and the canyon itself, a gorge that "snaked and sidled like the forces of wind and water that carved it, twisting this way and that, its sandy floor littered with rocks calved loose and toppled from above."

The story also works on a much larger canvas, making intimate the clash between progress and the natural world. "What is the point of owning a Gauguin if you can't recognize beauty when it's right in front of you?" Lemay asks the head of the power company. He, on the other hand, regards the canyon and its contents as "a whole lot of nothing."

While the author's writing has drawn comparisons to literary giants Wallace Stegner, Cormac McCarthy and Jim Harrison, the book "is its own work, a big, old-fashioned, and important novel," writes Rick Bass. And *Library Journal* lauds it as "a bold, beautiful read."

Brooks, who grew up in the rural foothills of the California Sierras, says he logs "just enough hours as a carpenter to finance an array of interests including writing, reading, hunting, horses, bird dogs, gardening, and cooking." His writing has appeared in *Gray's Sporting Journal*, *Big Sky Journal*, *Montana Quarterly*, and *Outside*, among others.

— Kristi Niemeyer



# ABOUT BOOKS

## *The Ploughmen*

By Kim Zupan

Published 2014 by Henry Holt and Company, New York, NY

\$26 hardcover

An old man who has murdered scores of victims and a young deputy, haunted by his mother's suicide and his wife's betrayal, spend night after night in the Copper County jail. Bound by mutual insomnia, they pass words through the bars.

It's not quite friendship because, as Valentine Millimaki notes, "I don't know if you can be friends with somebody you think might cut your throat if the opportunity arose."

But John Gload, with a predator's keen nose for weakness, builds a bond with his jailer. "I don't know that I have a thing you'd call a soul, Val, but I recognize it in other people. You have such a thing. I seen it smudged across your face the very first time I seen you."

Kim Zupan's stark, elegant debut evokes a raw, implacable landscape and surprising empathy, both for the young man, who roams the hills and river breaks looking for dead bodies, and for the seasoned killer.

"He tried to reconcile the avuncular old man tendering comfort and counsel from his dark cage with the creature who could placidly dismember a fellow human being ... The distance from reason to rage is short, a frontier as thin as parchment and as frail, restraining the monster. It was there in everyone, he thought. It was there in himself."

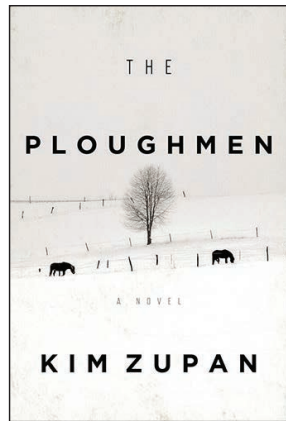
His wife sees Valentine as a stranger, consumed by ghosts, and blames him for leaving her alone in their cabin in the Little Belt Mountains. "But alone here I'm no more important than a bird or a tree ... this place is swallowing me up," she tells him.

Zupan has crafted an intimate, hypnotic novel that delves into the unraveling of a marriage, the thin divide between protector and destroyer, and our own reluctance to face death.

The author grew up in and around Great Falls, and it shows in the way he wraps his language around the landscape: "branches so high the ragged April scud seemed caught there like wisps of tapestry, a high circling bird caged in a wickerwork of pale spring bud."

The author earned his MFA from The University of Montana, and teaches carpentry at Missoula College. He's also worked as a smelterman, pro-rodeo cowboy, ranch hand and salmon fisherman. *Library Journal* calls his first novel "startlingly beautiful" and *The New York Times* lauds it as "a dark and imaginative debut."

— Kristi Niemeyer



## *How Ice Cream Saved*

### *Missoula*

By Michael Orford

Published 2014 by Chocolate and Bicycles Media, Missoula, MT

\$16.99 softcover

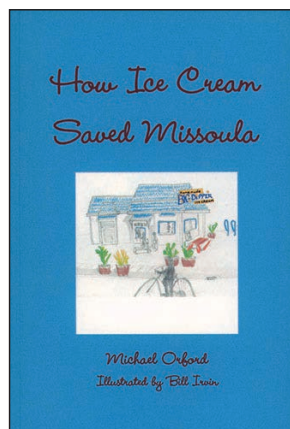
Michael Orford has penned a unique, create-your-own adventure that takes readers to many of Missoula's best-loved landmarks. "Don't read this book front to back," he suggests. "It is not a normal book, just like I am not a normal author." Instead, he advises readers to choose their own experiences as they pedal around Missoula, ice-cream cone in hand and dog Sam alongside.

Orford takes readers to many Garden City attractions, beginning with his favorite ice-cream purveyor, The Big Dipper. At the Carousel for Missoula, readers mount their favorite steeds and ride off into an imaginary primeval forest where adventure awaits. Imagine outwitting an ogre in Greenough Park, or being confronted by a troll on the pedestrian bridge to the university! Readers control their destiny by selecting their own fanciful endings.

Ride along, and have some fun with this puzzle/game book as you turn pages back and forth to an ending where "... they all lived happily ever after." Drawings by Bill Irvin illustrate the book.

Orford is an avid puzzle solver and game player. He lives in Missoula, eats as much ice cream as his wife will let him, and rides his bike everyday looking for adventure.

— Judy Shafter



## *Grey Dog Big Sky*

By Sheryl Noethe

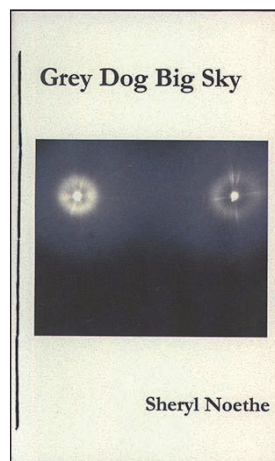
Published 2013 by FootHills Publishing, Kanona, NY

\$16 softcover

Buses rumble through the former Montana poet laureate's latest collection. We imagine her scribbling as she rolls along, collecting fragments of conversation, sketching travelers ("a brooding anarchist from Portland, puffy, and pale./ a handsome kid just out of jail from Seattle./ young woman with both upper and lower lips pierced"), the landscape, the surprising intimacy.

The children she's taught poetry to for decades also show up, often in heart-breaking ways. "Remember when words once held us rapt in vast possibility?/ A half-circle on the carpet around me, wiggling and twisting./ urgent with the need to sketch each letter, make ideas/ into words, electrified."

Like these kids (surely she's inspired thousands by now), she finds in writ-



ing the freedom "to change the narrative, delete, or select all, to open/ a new window and then another." *Grey Dog Big Sky* unfolds like that, window upon window, revealing flowers, lovers, dreams, and heroines (the scientist Marie Curie, the Burmese dissident Aung San Suu Kyi). This bracing, big-hearted collection struggles with war, wishes for us its antidote, and shows – like boarding a Greyhound bus at twilight – "when the poem comes unrolling unbidden./ it's never from where you would expect."

Craig Czury, editor of the Montana Poets Series, writes in the preface, "the look on the face of these poems will bring you to a stop."

Noethe, who served as the state's poet laureate from 2011-2013, is co-founder of the Missoula Writing Collaborative. She's received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Montana Arts Council and won the William Stafford Prize for Poetry. This is her fifth collection.

— Kristi Niemeyer

## *Wayfaring Stranger*

By James Lee Burke

Published 2014 by Simon and Schuster, New York, NY

\$27.99 hardcover

James Lee Burke dips back to the Dust Bowl and World War II in his latest novel, which opens with 16-year-old Weldon Avery Holland's brief but memorable encounter with infamous bank robbers Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. "Pretend we came with the dust and went with the wind," Bonnie advises him. Instead, he winds up planting a bullet in the rear window of their Chevrolet.

Holland becomes a second lieutenant in World War II, and barely escapes the Battle of the Bulge with his sergeant, Hershel Pine, "a yeoman and a solid fellow, with far more humanity in him than he is aware of." They trudge across an apocalyptic landscape, trapped behind enemy lines, and rescue a young Jewish woman, Rosita Lowenstein, from the remains of an extermination camp.

When the war ends, the trio remains bound together by love and loyalty: Weldon and Rosita as husband and wife, and Hershel as partner in a company that crafts pipelines, using German technology. Business booms as gas and oil production take off in Texas and Louisiana, but a sinister cabal tries to undermine their reputations and livelihoods. Rosita is branded a communist; a Hollywood producer seduces Hershel's wife; and the two men's war records come into question.

Peacetime America, post-WWII, is hardly peaceful in Burke's latest. But unlike his usual array of malevolent characters, the interplay between good and evil is tucked away, harbored by wealth, fueled by jealousy and anti-Semitism. "It's the way of the world," says financier and aviator Roy Wiseheart. "We're wayfaring strangers. We're born alone, we die alone."

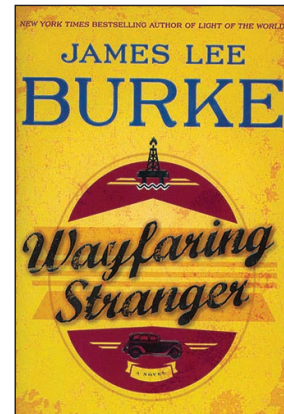
For the implacably honest Holland and his remarkable Rosita, the legend of Bonnie and Clyde comes full circle. This rich and robust story careens through a pivotal time in history with the author's customary insight and storytelling prowess intact.

"If I could draw any conclusion about the long, depressing slog of human progress," reflects the narrator, "it's the possibility that unseen elements lie just on the other side of the physical universe, and that somehow we're actors on the stage of the Globe ..."

*Kirkus Review* finds in the story "a new spaciousness married to his fine-tuned sense of retribution."

Burke, who lives in Missoula, has accrued two Edgar Awards during his lengthy career and was named Grand Master by the Mystery Writers of America.

— Kristi Niemeyer



## *Healy's West, The Life and Times of John J. Healy*

By Gordon E. Tolton

Published 2014 by Mountain Press Publishing, Missoula, MT

\$20 softcover

Author and historian Gordon Tolton offers a fresh look at one of Montana's early journalists and lawmen in his new book. Thirteen-year-old John J. Healy arrived in New York City in 1853 with his parents and siblings, part of a wave of Irish immigrants. At 18, he enlisted in the Army and went west with his unit to protect settlers traveling on the Oregon Trail.

After his discharge from military service, he began what seemed "his true life." "I am never so happy," Healy wrote, "as when on a good horse traveling light, my rifle, a bed roll, a coffee pot and frying pan, a bit of sugar, salt, flour, tea and coffee and (having to) rustle my meat."

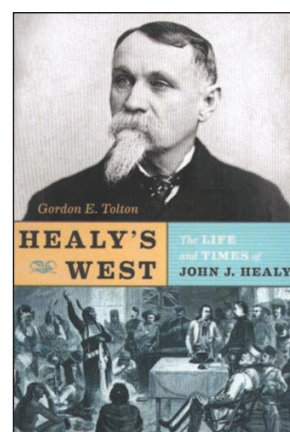
Healy was small in stature, but tough, wiry and smart. He proved himself over and over in a series of hazardous occupations, working as a scout, a gold miner, a merchant, and a fur trader. He started a newspaper, served as sheriff of Chouteau County in the 1870s, and spent many happy years raising a family and building up a trading post in the Sun River country near Fort Benton.

In 1885, Healy headed to Alaska where he met with great success as a fur trader and supplier of goods to the legions of miners smitten with gold fever. He even sought to connect Alaska with Russia via railroad, but after that venture failed, the restless and aging entrepreneur settled in San Francisco, where he passed away in 1908.

For most of his life, Healy was a willing subject for journalists and thus quite a good account of his experiences can be found in many books and articles. Tolton has used these resources extensively to craft a fine biography of a fascinating character whose life is threaded through the events that shaped the American West.

An amateur historian and re-enactor, Tolton is the author of five previous books, and has been associated with the Fort Whoop-Up National Historic Site in Alberta, Canada, for 22 years.

— Judy Shafter



# 11

## Send us book ideas

Two Helena publishing companies welcome book ideas.

**Farcountry Press** invites writers, photographers and illustrators to submit their book ideas for consideration.

Farcountry publishes award-winning books on regional popular history, natural history and national parks for a general audience and for children. The company also publishes color photography books on regions, states, cities and national parks, but generally does not publish poetry or fiction.

Please send book proposals to: Acquisitions, PO Box 5630, Helena, MT 59604. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or your materials will not be returned, and do not send original art or photographs. For more information, visit [www.farcountrypress.com](http://www.farcountrypress.com).

**Riverbend Publishing** also welcomes book proposals about Montana and the West. The company publishes award-winning books on regional history, natural history, photography and Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, plus cookbooks and fiction.

Send proposals to Editor, Riverbend Publishing, PO Box 5833, Helena, MT 59604. Visit [www.riverbendpublishing.com](http://www.riverbendpublishing.com) for more information about the company.



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## Hopa Mountain hosts Native Leadership Program

Now in its ninth year, Hopa Mountain is accepting applications for Strengthening the Circle (STC), a Native Nonprofit Leadership Program. This training program is designed specifically for leaders of Native American nonprofit organizations and is cooperatively organized in partnership with Seventh Generation Fund for Indigenous Peoples, Artemisia Associates, and Wolf-Star Productions.

The next STC gathering takes place March 30-April 2 in Bozeman. Applications are now being accepted from Native nonprofit executive directors and board members in Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.

For more information, or to access the application, visit: [www.hopamountain.org/StrengtheningTheCircle.php](http://www.hopamountain.org/StrengtheningTheCircle.php).

## Montana artist receives Artist in Business Leadership Fellowship

Valerie Veis (Little Shell Tribe of the Chipewewa Cree) of Fairfield is among the artists receiving the 2015 Artist in Business Leadership Fellowship from the First Peoples Fund. The fellows represent mid-career artists who have demonstrated a commitment to pursue their art as a career.

Veis is a first-time Artist in Business Leadership fellow. Recently completing the MAC's Montana Artrepreneur Program, she has been a fixture on the Montana art scene for nearly two decades. Veis was born under the Big Sky, and spent her youth embracing the music, culture and art of the times.

Basketry wove its way into her heart at the tender age of 10, when she purchased her first basket at a small general store in a dusty little town. Her home is Montana's Rocky Mountain Front where she and her spouse have raised their two children.

"Inspiration abounds: colors melt from the earth and sky; structure is shaped from plants and animals; and, my basketry and painting reflect the surrounding prairies, mountains, streams and vast horizons," she writes on her website, [www.montanabaskets.com](http://www.montanabaskets.com). "My art is simple: much the way I view my life."

"The fellowship brings me closer to realizing my dream. It is such an incredible honor to be selected," she said from her home studio. "I am focused full-time on art and this fellowship will bring me closer to my goal of creating a sustainable business while contributing to the arts and culture of Montana."

With the fellowship, Veis plans to improve her website and to purchase equipment allowing her to reach a broader audience for her baskets and paintings.

"It allows me to independently travel and participate at regional exhibitions promoting my art while becoming self-sufficient as an artist," she concluded.

"This year's Artist in Business Leadership fellows come from all over the country, and bring a wide array of backgrounds to our organization and the communities we partner with," said Miranne Walker, First Peoples Fund program officer. "From traditional to contemporary arts, and wood carving, beadwork, and silk screening, they represent artists who are doing exciting, innovative work."



Paris Bread has crafted a short documentary about his mother, beadworker Jackie Bread.

## Congrats to Paris Bread

Paris Bread (Blackfeet), a digital filmmaking student at The University of Montana, recently made a short documentary about his mother, renowned artist Jackie Bread. The documentary is a loving portrait of the influences, inspirations and cultural foundation of her intricate and astounding beadwork.

You can find the documentary online at: [theaudienceawards.com/film/jackie-l-bread-blackfeet-artist8347](http://theaudienceawards.com/film/jackie-l-bread-blackfeet-artist8347).

# NATIVE NEWS

## Nominate a Native artist for the Community Spirit Award

The Community Spirit Awards is a national fellowship award for American Indian, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian artists. First Peoples Fund chooses honorees for their commitment to sustaining the cultural values of native people.



Painter and basket-maker Valerie Veis (right), a graduate of MAC's Montana Artrepreneur Program, recently received an Artist in Business Leadership Fellowship from the First People's Fund. Her basketry (above) reflects the colors of the earth and sky that surround her.



The process of bringing spirit back to community is an important responsibility for artists – it is part of a sacred honor system. First Peoples Fund works to strengthen that honor system by recognizing these exceptional artists for knowing themselves, honoring others, and sustaining spirit in their own communities.

Nominees must be:

- Practicing artists of demonstrated maturity in their field;
- Continually practicing artists for a minimum of 10 years; and
- Documented affiliates of a United States tribe (Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian artists included).

Note: In addition to Visual Arts, First Peoples recognizes contemporary and traditional forms of Performing Arts and Literary Arts.

Fellowships will be awarded to artists who demonstrate:

- An artistic practice that passes on the traditions and the life ways of the people;
- A commitment to building the strength of native communities by sharing their skills and talents with others in their respective communities; and

- Deeply rooted and direct ties to their tribal community.

Nominate online at [www.firstpeoplesfund.org](http://www.firstpeoplesfund.org) or send a postcard with complete names and addresses of both nominee and nominator to P.O. Box 2977, Rapid City, SD 57709.

Nominated candidates must be from an American Indian community.

Deadline for nominations is July 1, 2015; applications will be mailed out after the nomination deadline has passed.

## Montana Folk Festival accepting nominations for First Peoples' Market

Once again applications are being accepted for the eighth annual First Peoples' Market that takes place at the Montana Folk Festival, July 10-12 in Butte. Both deeply traditional crafts and more contemporary artistic expressions rooted in Native American experience will be featured in the market.

Native News compiled by  
Dyani Bingham  
([dyani\\_b@hotmail.com](mailto:dyani_b@hotmail.com))  
for *State of the Arts*

Applicants must comply with the definition of "Indian Artisan" under the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990 by providing proof of enrollment as members of recognized Native American tribes.

A committee selects and invites artists based on a set of criteria that includes: quality, uniqueness, authenticity, connection to regional culture, and the artist's relationship with his or her community. The committee reviews all applications and selects vendors who best meet these criteria. Selected participants will be strongly encouraged to demonstrate, if appropriate and feasible.

Application deadline is April 30, and applications and guidelines are available at [montanafolksfestival.com](http://montanafolksfestival.com).

## Montana Indian Business Alliance updating website

The Montana Indian Business Alliance (MIBA) is encouraging Indian businesses to update their directory information on the MIBA website ([www.mibaonline.org](http://www.mibaonline.org)).

It is MIBA's mission to promote private Indian businesses. The organization would like to make sure information on all Native-owned businesses on file is up to date so that these enterprises "can be listed, be connected and be noticed" on this free marketing tool, exclusive to Montana private Indian businesses.

## Profit Mastery Workshops slated for Fort Peck and Fort Belknap reservations

Two-day workshops in Profit Mastery and Lending are slated for March 17-18 on the Fort Peck Reservation in Poplar and April 21-22 at Fort Belknap. Classes include a panel discussion on best practices in successful lending and an intense 16-hour session on Profit Mastery, which provides entrepreneurs with information on how best to maximize profits. Both workshops meet from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily and lunch is provided.

Montana Indian Business Alliance (MIBA), Opportunity Link, Inc., Fort Belknap Economic Development Corporation, Native American Development Corporation, Montana Department of Transportation, Bear Paw Development, Department of Commerce and other sponsors are hosting these workshops.

The hosts and sponsors are providing scholarships to Native-owned businesses that have been in business for at least two years to attend the workshop on the Fort Peck Reservation. The scholarship award of \$313 includes workshop training, materials and lunches. To apply, contact Montana Indian Business Alliance Executive Director Johnel Barcus at [johnelb@mibaonline.org](mailto:johnelb@mibaonline.org) or 406-450-4822.

## Opportunities for Native Americans

**Native Language Preservation:** The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Native Language Preservation and Maintenance program provides funding for projects to support assessments of the status of the native languages in an established community.

Funding also includes the planning, designing, and implementing of native language curriculum and education projects to support a community's language preservation goals. Native American communities include American Indian tribes, Native Hawaiians, Alaskan Natives, and Native American Pacific Islanders.

**Deadline is March 4;** for more information visit [www.acf.hhs.gov](http://www.acf.hhs.gov).

**Peabody Essex Museum Native American Fellowship:** The Peabody Essex Museum, located in Salem, MA, offers summer fellowship opportunities for graduate students and cultural professionals of Native American, Native Hawaiian or Alaska Native background. These paid, full-time, 10-week fellowships prepare participants for leadership positions in the museum field and/or the nonprofit cultural sector.

**Deadline is ongoing;** visit [pem.org](http://pem.org).

# The next generation: Studio 740 provides an artistic home for Bray artists

By Marga Lincoln  
Reprinted with permission  
from the *Helena Independent Record*,  
Nov. 28, 2014

Fearless creativity – could be the motto for Studio 740, where dream and risk go hand in hand.

It's a new ceramics studio on the rise in the historic Old Distillery building at 740 Front St.

"This whole place is built on dreams," said artist Beth Cavener, who first conceived of the idea and is the major investor in the venture.

She and two other former Archie Bray Foundation resident artists, Alessandro Gallo and Chris Riccardi, converted it into a light and airy ceramics studio.

And they've already brought in another artist, Noah Riedel from Pottery Northwest, to join them.

All three of the former Bray residents wanted to return to Helena because the Bray was such a profound turning point in their careers.

Cavener said that after seven years as a studio artist in the small town of Garfield, in eastern Washington, she was ready to be near other artists. "The first place I thought of was Helena."

A resident artist at the Bray from 2002 to 2004, Cavener said, "it was an absolutely pivotal time of my career. This place and history has a deep personal meaning for me. This is the place I want to come home to."

For Cavener and Gallo, who are the delighted parents of an infant, Niccolo, Helena seemed the perfect place to start their new artistic and family adventure.

Being near the Archie Bray, with its international role in the ceramics community, was



From left, artists Alessandro Gallo, Beth Cavener, Chris Riccardi and Noah Riedel show off their new Studio 740 in Helena.

(Photo by Thom Bridge/courtesy of the *Helena Independent Record*)

an irresistible draw, said Gallo.

There's a whole new generation of Bray artists who want to make Helena home, he added.

Initially leading the way in the 1980s and 1990s were other Bray artists who chose to make Helena their home: Robert Harrison, Sarah Jaeger, George McCauley and Eric Van Eimeren – to name a few, and before them Richard and Penny Swanson.

The next generation includes not only the Studio 740 artists, but also Tara Wilson, Mel Griffin and David Peters.

Studio 740 also offers a space for Bray artists in transition, like Giselle Hicks, who completes her Bray residency in December and will move in, said Cavener.

And it will be a teaching space. "I love teaching and mentoring," she said. "I want to bring in young people from all over the country." There's also a plan to bring in international artists to teach workshops.

Riccardi, a decade or so further along in

his art career, took the leap along with Cavener and Gallo.

"Chris' commitment is really staggering," said Cavener. "He's seriously a founding father."

"We took a huge risk," said Riccardi of his decision. "I worked 20 years at the nonprofit the Armory Art Center (in West Palm Beach, Florida)."

But he felt ready for a major change.

"The Bray changed my view on ceramics, it gave me a huge boost in confidence," he said. He had been making bronze casts of his sculptures until his Bray residency changed that. Now his focus is ceramic sculpture.

Riccardi not only quit his job, but uprooted his wife, Melody, their three kids and their dog.

"I just loved Helena," he said of what sealed the deal.

When asked about their big dream and the risk, Cavener takes a deep breath before answering.

"All of us have never let money direct us," she said. "It's just a tool to get at what we want to do."

They're all in this adventure together. They already have established careers and galleries they work with. But they intend to market themselves as a group, Studio 740, nationally and internationally, for gallery shows and teaching workshops.

Not only does artistry and friendship draw them closer, but it's also what inspires and informs their sculptures.

"We all have a different appreciation of the figure," said Gallo.

To learn more about the artists, visit [helenaair.com](http://helenaair.com) and search for Studio 740, or head to [www.facebook.com/Studio740](http://www.facebook.com/Studio740).



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## Meet up with MAC on Facebook

"Like" us for updates on Montana Arts Council activities and opportunities, as well as information for and about artists, arts events and organizations across the state: [www.facebook.com/pages/Montana-Arts-Council/347466251951287](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Montana-Arts-Council/347466251951287).

## Western Art Week (from page 1)

**The March in Montana Auction and Dealer Show**, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. March 18-21, at the Town House Inn: The 28th annual show and sale of fine western art and cowboy and Indian antiques and collectibles culminates in auctions at noon Friday and Saturday. Live online bidding is available; lots are posted online and in the full-color catalog (307-635-0019 or [www.marchinmontana.com](http://www.marchinmontana.com)).

**The Out West Art Show and Sale**, March 18-21, at Best Western Plus Heritage Inn: 114 exhibit rooms are filled with works by more than 140 artists. The show kicks off from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday with the opening celebration, featuring live music. Thursday brings a performance by Missouri River Dance of "The Story of the Buffalo Dance." Friday and Saturday highlights include a Quick Finish at 2:30 p.m. and an auction of those works from 4-5:30 p.m. Demonstration and music are on tap throughout (406-899-2958 or [www.outwestartshow.com](http://www.outwestartshow.com)).

**Great Western Living and Design Exhibition**, March 19-22 at the Four Seasons Arena at Montana ExpoPark: with over 80 vendors showing the best of the west, this show boasts something for everybody. Boot makers, furniture makers, clothing and jew-

elry artisans share an array of custom-made and unique creations. Enjoy music nightly by Pollo Loco, Almeda Bradshaw and others (406-761-0288 or [www.thegreatwesternshow.com](http://www.thegreatwesternshow.com)).

**Wild Bunch Art Show**, March 18-21 at the Holiday Inn: 16 artists from three states show and sell their work during the annual event, which kicks off Wednesday with a meet-the-artists gala reception. A portion of proceeds benefits the Great Falls Children's Museum (406-868-9649 or [www.anadinepickthorn.com](http://www.anadinepickthorn.com)).

**Missouri Falls Fine Arts Show and Sale**, March 20-22 at La Quinta Inn and Suites; The Arts Association of Montana returns to Western Art Week with 15 fine artists selling their work; ceramist Judy Ericksen is this year's featured artist. Meet her and other artists during at reception 4-8 p.m. Friday (406-453-4076).

**Studio 706 Artist Guild Spring Show**, March 19-21 at the Mansfield Center Gibson Room; 26 member artists showcase their works during Western Art Week. Offerings encompass all types of fine art, including paintings, wood carvings, pottery, photography, stained glass and ceramics. A reception



Furniture-maker Mike Roths of Bear Paw Designs in Stevensville is among the artisans showing work at the Great Western Living and Design Exhibition.

is on tap 5-7 p.m. Thursday; guild artists give demonstrations throughout the event (406-781-4635 or 406-452-5771).

**Jay Contway and Friends Art Show**, March 19-21 at the Hilton Garden Inn: Professional artists from the western United States and Canada host their own exhibits (406-452-7647 or [www.jaycontway.com](http://www.jaycontway.com)).

For more information, visit [www.westernartweek.com](http://www.westernartweek.com).

## Arts and cultural events receive Special Events Grants

The Montana Department of Commerce recently awarded \$150,000 in funding for events across the state that help support Montana's vibrant tourism industry as it continues to bring new revenue to the economy. The funding is being made available through the Montana Office of Tourism's Special Events Grant Program (SEGP).

The Montana communities receiving SEGP grants this year are Bozeman, Ekalaka, Glasgow, Hamilton, Kalispell, Missoula, Seeley Lake, Stevensville, West Yellowstone, White Sulphur Springs, and Wolf Point. Grant funds are available for event marketing and promotion outside a 100-mile radius of the event.

"Montana's special events are both culturally rich and economically important," said Commerce Direc-

tor Meg O'Leary. "These grants are investments into community efforts enjoyed by residents and travelers alike."

Arts and cultural events receiving SEGP awards are:

- The Ekalaka Shindig, \$7,350; sponsored by the Carter County Museum, Ekalaka;
- McIntosh Apple Day and Liquid Apple Night, \$8,760; sponsored by the Ravalli County Museum and Historical Society in Hamilton;
- Big Sky Documentary Film Festival, \$23,178; sponsor by the Big Sky Film Institute, Missoula;
- In the Footsteps of Norman Maclean Festival, \$20,701; sponsored by Alpine Artisans, Inc., Seeley Lake;

- Western Heritage Days and Chuck Wagon Cook-off, \$6,351; sponsored by the Stevensville Main Street Association; and

- Red Ants Pants Music Festival, \$30,271; sponsor by the Red Ants Pants Foundation, White Sulphur Springs.

The SEGP was developed in 2002 to assist communities with economic development through the creation and/or enhancement of annual, on-going events. To date, the SEGP has provided over \$1 million in grant funding to 129 events in various Montana communities. Learn more at [www.travel-montana.org](http://www.travel-montana.org).

For more information, contact the Montana Office of Tourism staff at 406-841-2870.



14

Historic paintings donated to Glacier Park

Glacier National Park recently received a generous donation of 21 historic paintings from Glacier Park, Inc. The paintings, originally created for the hotels, motels and lodges in the park, include pieces by John Fery, Frank Stick, R.H. Palenske and Charles Defeo.

The pieces were originally owned and/or commissioned by the Great Northern Railway, and many depict iconic scenes from in and around Glacier National Park. All are estimated to have originated between 1909 and 1915, and have been on display at Lake McDonald Lodge, Many Glacier Hotel, Rising Sun Motor Inn and the Two Medicine Campstore in the park.

A condition of the donation was that the paintings remain in the hotels, motels and lodges for which they were created.

“We are thrilled to receive this wonderful gift from Glacier Park, Inc.,” said park superintendent Jeff Mow. “These paintings help tell the story of the early tourist accommodations in the park and the connection the railroad had in promoting this area to the nation.”

ARTS CALENDAR, MARCH/APRIL

Anaconda

March 21  
“Denim and Diamonds” Benefit Auction - Country Club, Copper Village Museum and Arts Center, 406-563-2422

Big Sky

March 7  
Jad Abumrad: “Gut Churn” - 7:30 p.m., Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 406-995-6345  
March 20  
Two to Tango: Pablo Ziegler and Christopher O’Riley - 7:30 p.m., Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 406-995-6345  
March 26  
Arts Council of Big Sky Auction for the Arts - 5-8 p.m., Lone Mountain Ranch, 406-995-2742  
March 28  
James Sewell Ballet - 7:30 p.m., Warren Miller Performing Arts Center, 406-995-6345

Big Timber

March 28  
Sweet Grass Arts and Crafts Spring Fling - 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Big Timber Civic Center, 406-932-6771

Bigfork

March 1  
“Rumors” - 2 p.m., Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-890-1882  
March 6  
Book Launch and Signing Party: Leslie Budewitz - 5-8 p.m., Frame of Reference Gallery, 406-837-7329  
March 20-22, 27-28  
“Disney’s Camp Rock” - Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, Bigfork Playhouse Children’s Theatre, 406-837-4885  
April 17-19  
“Cowabunga - Americow’s Got Talent” - Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-837-4885

Billings

March 1  
Ladysmith Black Mambazo - 8 p.m., Babcock Theatre, 866-300-8300  
March 1, 6-8  
“The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe” - NOVA Center for the Performing Arts, 406-591-9535  
March 4  
Clint Black - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 5  
Caladh Nua - Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 6, April 3  
Jam at the YAM - 5:30-8 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804  
March 7  
Art Auction 47 - 5 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804  
Heritage Playapalooza - 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Western Heritage Center, 406-256-6809  
March 7, 14, 21, 28  
Improv 20th Reunion - 8 p.m., NOVA Center for the Performing Arts, 406-591-9535  
March 7  
“Introducing Montana Native American Literature” - 1 p.m., Billings Public Library, 406-243-6022



“Camelot” brings the drama and pageantry of King Arthur’s court to Butte on March 30 and Billings March 31.

March 9  
“The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley” - Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 10  
Jake Shimabukuro - 8 p.m., Babcock Theatre, 406-894-2020  
March 10, 17  
World War One Lecture Series - 6:30 p.m., MSU-Billings Library, 406-657-1662  
March 13-15, 19-22, 26-28  
“Monky Business” - Billings Studio Theatre, 406-248-1141  
March 14  
Billings Symphony: “Gone Country” - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-252-3610  
March 15  
Home Free - 8 p.m., Babcock Theatre, 406-259-7123  
Yellowstone Chamber Players - 3 p.m., Billings Clinic Commons, 406-690-1702  
March 18  
“Junie B. Jones” - Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 19  
High Noon Lecture: “Fusing Past, Present and Future” - noon, Western Heritage Center, 406-256-6809  
March 20-21, 27-29, April 3-4  
“Communicating Doors” - NOVA Center for the Performing Arts, 406-591-9535  
March 20  
Friends of Bob and Tom Show Comedy Tour - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 21  
Two to Tango - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 24  
Historic Preservation Roundtable - 8-9:30 a.m., Billings Depot, 406-256-6809  
“ImaginOcean” - Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 28  
Women of Ireland - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
March 31  
“Camelot” - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
April 8-11  
Wet Ink Fringe Festival - 7:30 p.m., NOVA Center for the Performing Arts, 406-591-9535  
April 10  
Acquire The Fire “Resilient” - 6 p.m., MetraPark, 866-901-9131  
April 10-12, 16-19, 23-25  
“Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” - Billings Studio Theatre, 406-248-1141  
April 11-12  
Antique Sale and Flea Market - Bair Family Clubhouse, Boys and Girls Club of Yellowstone County, 406-252-3670  
April 11  
OperaFest - 6 p.m., Yellowstone Country Club, 406-591-9535  
Recycled Percussion - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
April 12  
Billings Community Band Spring Concert - 3 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-259-3476  
April 14  
“I Love Lucy” Live on Stage - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
April 16  
High Noon Lecture: Tyson Middle - noon, Western Heritage Center, 406-256-6809  
April 17-19, 24-26  
“Dinosaurs Before Dark” - NOVA Center for the Performing Arts, 406-591-9535  
April 18  
Billings Symphony: “From Russia With Love” - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-252-3610  
April 23  
“Bella Vista” - 6-8 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804  
“Dino Light” - Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052  
April 25  
BLM Archeology Day - 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Will James Cabin at Pictograph State Park, 406-256-6804  
April 26  
Yellowstone Chamber Players - 3 p.m., Losekamp Hall, Rocky Mountain College, 406-690-1702



“Menopause the Musical,” staged to classic tunes from the ‘60s, ‘70s and ‘80s, is showing in Helena April 11, Great Falls April 14 and Bozeman April 15.

Bozeman

March 1  
“Man of La Mancha” - 3 p.m., MSU Black Box Theater, 406-587-2889  
Sunday Swing with Adam Greenberg and the Bridger Mountain Big Band - 3 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885  
March 4  
Bozeman Symphony: Meet the Composer Reception - 5:30 p.m., Fin on Main, 406-585-9774  
Carlos Nunez - 8 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885  
Neil deGrasse Tyson - 7:30 p.m., Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 406-994-CATS  
March 7  
Author Event: Aaron Parrett - 1 p.m., Country Bookshelf, 406-587-0166

March 7-8  
Bozeman Symphony Orchestra: “Electric Premier” - Willson Auditorium, 406-585-9774  
March 10  
Tweedy with The Minus Five - 7:30 p.m., Emerson Center Crawford Theater, 406-586-1922  
March 11  
“Women’s Adventures in Early Yellowstone” - 6 p.m., Museum of the Rockies, 406-243-6022  
March 14, 18  
The Met: Live in HD: “La Donna del Lago” - Gallatin Valley Mall Cinema, 406-586-4515  
March 21  
Philip Aaberg, Angella Ahn, Peter Zazofsky, and Michael Reynolds - 7:30 p.m., MSU Reynolds Recital Hall, 508-740-8331  
March 25  
Trampled by Turtles - 8 p.m., Emerson Center Crawford Theater, 406-582-1871  
March 26  
Steve Tyrell - 8 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885  
April 2  
Author Event: Tiya Miles - 7 p.m., Country Bookshelf, 406-587-0166  
April 10-11  
The Best of The Broads: 15 Years of Satire - 8 p.m., Emerson Center, 406-522-7623  
April 11-12  
Bozeman Symphony Orchestra: “Ode to Joy” - Willson Auditorium, 406-585-9774  
April 11  
Oscar Spotlight: George Chakiris - 7 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885  
April 15  
“Menopause - The Musical” - 7:30 p.m., Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 406-994-CATS  
April 21-22  
Pecha Kucha - 7:20 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885  
April 22  
Neko Case - 8 p.m., Emerson Center, 406-586-1922  
April 24  
Lester Rocks - 7:30 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406-585-5885  
April 25, 29  
The Met: Live in HD: “Cavalleria Rusticana” and “Pagliacci” - Gallatin Valley Mall Cinema, 406-586-4515  
April 30  
Blue Man Group - 7:30 p.m., Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, 406-994-CATS  
Le Vent du Nord - 7:30 p.m., Ellen Theatre, 406- 585-5885  
Butte  
March 6  
A Springtime of Irish Music and Song: James Kelly - 7:30-9 p.m., Montana Tech Library Auditorium, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-544-0311  
March 14, 16-17  
St. Patrick’s Day Celebration - Uptown, 406-565-7689  
March 17  
Handing Down the Heritage - 6:30 p.m., Butte Civic Center, 406-497-6400

# ARTS CALENDAR, MARCH/APRIL

March 20

A Springtime of Irish Music and Song: Liam O'Maonlai - 7:30-9 p.m., Montana Tech Library Auditorium, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-544-0311

March 30

"Camelot" - 8 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, 406-723-3602

April 11

Montana Early Music Festival - Immaculate Conception Church, 406-933-5246

April 18

Butte Symphony - 7:30 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, 406-723-5590

April 30

Umi Garrett - 7:30 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, Butte Community Concert Association, 406-723-3602

## Chinook

April 10-11

Western Heritage Poets and Pickers Roundup - 6:30 p.m., high school, 406-353-2383

## Condon

March 8

Chinook Winds - 3 p.m., Swan Valley School, 406-677-0717

## Creston

April 4-5

Creston Auction and Country Fair - Creston School, 406-250-7396

## Cut Bank

March 19

"Butte: Cosmopolitan City of Montana" - 7 p.m., Glacier County Library, 406-243-6022

## Deer Lodge

March 11

Jazz 'N 3 - 7:30 p.m., Rialto Community Theatre, 406-846-7900

## Dillon

March 10

Ben Gulley - 7:30 p.m., UM Western Beier Auditorium, Dillon Concert Association, 406-865-0076

April 21

Six Appeal - 7:30 p.m., Beaverhead County High School Auditorium, Dillon Concert Association, 406-865-0076

## Drummond

April 7

"Nike's Echo" - 7 p.m., Drummond School and Community Library, 406-243-6022

## Eureka

March 26

Mud Bay Jugglers and Tune Stranglers - 7 p.m., Lincoln County High School Auditorium, Sunburst Community Service Foundation, 406-297-0197

## Fort Benton

March 16

Two Bit Franks - 7 p.m., Elementary School, Chouteau County Performing Arts, 406-750-2918

April 16

Alice Tan Ridley - 7 p.m., Fort Benton Elementary School, Chouteau County Performing Arts, 406-750-2918

## Glasgow

March 30

Alex Zerbe "The Zaniac" - 7 p.m., High School, Northeastern Arts Network, 406-489-4304

## Great Falls

March 6

Black Tie Blue Jeans - 6 p.m., Best Western Heritage Inn, 406-453-4102

March 6, April 3

First Friday, downtown, 406-453-6103

March 7

"A Knight of Murder" Interactive Murder Mystery Party - 6-9 p.m., Elks Lodge, 406-452-1068

March 8

Western Art and Hollywood Cinema: "Monte Walsh" - 2 p.m., C.M. Russell Museum, 406-727-8787

March 9

Ben Gulley - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, Great Falls Community Concert Association, 406-455-8514

March 12

"McManus in Love" - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Theater, 406-455-8514

March 18-21

March in Montana Auction and Dealer Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Town House Inn, Manitou Galleries and Coeur d'Alene Art Auction, 307-635-0019

Out West Art Show and Sale - Best Western Plus Heritage Inn, 406-899-2958

March 18-22

Western Heritage Artists Association Art Show - Holiday Inn, 406-868-9649

March 18-21

Wild Bunch Art Show - Holiday Inn, 406-868-9649

March 19-22

Jay Contway and Friends Art Show - Hilton Garden Inn, 406-452-7647

Great Western Living and Design Show - Four Seasons Arena at Montana ExpoPark, 406-761-0288

March 19

Sherman Lecture Series: "Lewis and Clark Among the Nez Perce" - 7 p.m., Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 406-727-8733

March 19-21

Studio 706 Artist Guild Spring Show - Gibson Room, Mansfield Convention Center, 406-781-4635

The Russell Exhibition and Sale - C.M. Russell Museum, 406-727-8787

Trunk Show Featuring Jackie Larson Bread - C.M. Russell Museum Store, 406-727-8787

Western Collectibles and Antique Gun Show - Montana ExpoPark, 406-727-8900

March 20-22

Missouri Falls Fine Arts Show and Sale - La Quinta Inn and Suites, 406-453-4076

March 28

Great Falls Symphony Orchestra and Symphonic Choir: "From the Journals of Lewis and Clark" - 3 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-453-4102

March 29

Great Falls Sinfonia and Youth Orchestra Concert - 2 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-453-4102

April 9-12, 16-18

Festival of New Student Works - University of Great Falls Theatre, 406-791-5367

April 11

Alex Zerbe: "The Zaniac" - 2 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, Great Falls Community Concert Association, 406-455-8514

Art Auction - 5:30-10:30 p.m., Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, 406-727-8255

April 12

Chinook Winds: A Change of Seasons - 2 p.m., First Congregational Church, 406-453-4102

Museum Sunday Sampler - noon-5 p.m., Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 406-727-8733

April 14

Chinook Winds: A Change of Seasons - 7 p.m., Great Falls History Museum, 406-453-4102

"Menopause: The Musical" - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-453-4102



Chinook Winds performs March 8 in Condon and in Great Falls April 12. (Photo by Scott Photography)

April 25

Great Falls Symphony Orchestra with Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg: "Speaking in Strings" - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, 406-453-4102

April 26

Western Art and Hollywood Cinema: "Red River" - 1:30 p.m., C.M. Russell Museum, 406-727-8787

April 28

The Trail Mixer - 5 p.m., Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, Lewis and Clark Foundation, 406-791-7733

## Hamilton

March 1

"The Drowsy Chaperone" - 2 p.m., Hamilton Playhouse, 406-375-9050

March 6, April 3

First Friday - 6-8 p.m., downtown, 406-360-9124

March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4

Spring Speakers Series - 10 a.m., Daly Mansion, 406-363-6004

March 27

Red Baraat - 8 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center, Bitterroot Performing Arts Council, 406-363-7946

April 17-19, 24-26

"The Curious Savage" - Hamilton Playhouse, 406-375-9050

April 24

Handsome Little Devils: Squirm Burpee Circus - 7:30 p.m., Hamilton Performing Arts Center, Bitterroot Performing Arts Council, 406-363-7946

## Harlowton

March 3

"The Legend of 'Poker Joe' Lean Elk" - 6:30 p.m., Harlowton Public Library, 406-243-6022

## Havre

March 4

Chancellor's Lecture Series: "History of Women's Suffrage in Montana" - 6:30 p.m., MSU-Northern Hensler Auditorium, 406-265-3700

March 5-7, 12-14

"Grease" - 8 p.m., MSUN/MAT Theatre, 406-945-0272

March 26

Chancellor's Lecture Series: Montana's Poet Laureate Tami Haaland - 7:30 p.m., MSU-Northern Hensler Auditorium, 406-265-3700

April 3-4, 9-11, 16-18

"Over the River and Through the Woods" - 8 p.m., MSUN/MAT Theatre, 406-945-0272

April 12

Neal McCoy - 7:30 p.m., MSU-Northern Gymnasium, 406-265-3700

April 14

Chancellor's Lecture Series: "Chinese in Montana: Our Forgotten Pioneers" - 7:30 p.m., MSU-Northern Hensler Auditorium, 406-265-3700

April 21

Chancellor's Lecture Series: "One Man, One Violin and One Remarkable Concert" - 7:30 p.m., MSU-Northern Hensler Auditorium, 406-265-3700

## Helena

March 1

"Crimes of the Heart" - 3 p.m., Carroll College Theatre, 406-447-4309

March 1, 4-8, 11-15

"Our Town" - Grandstreet Theatre, 406-447-1574

March 3

Carlos Nunez - 7 p.m., Helena Civic Center, Live! at the Civic, 406-422-4083



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## Made in Montana Tradeshow connects buyers and sellers

The annual, two-day Made in Montana Tradeshow connects wholesale store buyers from across the region with over 100 members of the Made in Montana program. The event is held 9 a.m.-6 p.m. March 27 and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. March 28 at the Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds in Helena.

Friday's show is open to qualified store owners and wholesale buyers only. The public is invited to share in the bounty on Saturday during the Product Showcase day, where they can experience firsthand the quality and beauty of unique products made by Montana artists, designers and manufacturers. Products include gourmet foods and beverages, fine art and crafts, unique apparel, accessories, home décor and much more.

Admission is free and purchases can be made at retail prices.

The tradeshow is located at the fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, 98 West Custer Avenue. For more information, call 406-841-2757 or visit [madeinmontanausa.com](http://madeinmontanausa.com).



Mud Bay Jugglers and the Tune Stranglers will perform in Eureka March 26 and in Ronan March 28.

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MCC hosts annual Arts Awards luncheon

The Missoula Cultural Council’s annual Arts Awards program and luncheon is slated for 11:30 a.m. March 24 at the Doubletree Edgewater. The event honors those individuals and businesses that have shown consistently outstanding contributions to the arts community.

Established in 1999, the awards demonstrate the importance of the arts as they relate to Missoula’s quality of life by honoring those who have made significant and creative contributions. Categories include Individual Artist, Individual Cultural Achievement, Arts Educator, Business Support for the Arts, and Cultural Vision.

To purchase a ticket or table, contact MCC at 406-541-0860 or email [mcc@missoulacultural.org](mailto:mcc@missoulacultural.org).

ARTS CALENDAR, MARCH/APRIL

Helena (cont.)

**March 5**  
Broad Comedy - 6-9 p.m., Great Northern Hotel, 406-770-3925  
Gallery of Outstanding Montanans Induction Ceremony - 11 a.m., Montana State Capitol Rotunda, 406-444-2694  
“The Red and the White: A Family Saga of the American West” - 6:30 p.m., Montana Historical Society, 406-444-2694

**March 6**  
Caladh Nua - 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

**March 6, April 3**  
First Friday, downtown, 406-996-1279

**March 8**  
Musikanten Montana: Choral Evensong - 4 p.m., St. Peter’s Episcopal Cathedral, 406-442-5175

**March 10**  
Jazz ’n 3 - 7:30 p.m., Gateway Center, Starz on Stage, 406-227-9711

**March 11-13**  
Saturday Night Live - 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

**March 14, 18**  
The Met: Live in HD: “La Donna del Lago” - Great Northern Cinemark 8, 406-442-4225

**March 19-22, 25-29**  
“Sideways Stories from Wayside School” - March 29, 2:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, 406-447-1574

**March 20**  
Rob O’Neill, “Never Quit” - 7 p.m., Helena Civic Center, Leadership Montana, 406-447-8481

**March 22-24**  
Governor’s Conference on Tourism and Recreation - Red Lion Colonial Hotel, 406-841-2870

**March 25**  
“The Life of Nancy Cooper Russell” - noon, Montana Historical Society, 406-444-2694

**March 28**  
Helena Symphony: Bach’s St. Matthew Passion - a Ritualization! - 7 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-442-1860  
Made in Montana Tradeshaw - 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds, 406-841-2783

**April 9-10, 12**  
Montana Early Music Festival - St. Peter’s Episcopal Cathedral, 406-933-5246

**April 11**  
2015 Season Launch Party - 7:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, 406-442-4270  
“Menopause The Musical” - 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-447-8481

**April 16**  
Quixotic Fusion - 7 p.m., Helena Civic Center, Live! at the Civic, 406-422-4083

**April 17**  
Alice Tan Ridley - 7:30 p.m., Gateway Center, Starz on Stage, 406-227-9711

**April 24-25**  
“Journey to the Worlds Edge” - 7:30 p.m., Carroll College Theatre, 406-447-4309

**April 24-26, 29-30**  
“She Loves Me” - Grandstreet Theatre, 406-447-1574

**April 25, 29**  
The Met: Live in HD: “Cavalleria Rusticana” and “Pagliacci” - Great Northern Cinemark 8, 406-442-4225

Kalispell

**March 1**  
Idara Aguinaga, “Echoes of Carnegie Hall” - 3 p.m., Glacier High School Performance Hall, Kinnor Classics International, 406-471-3487

**March 2, 10, 17, 23**  
FVCC Honors Symposium Lecture Series: “The Next America: How Millennials Are Changing Everything” - 7 p.m., FVCC Arts and Technology Building, Room 139, 406-756-3822

**March 5**  
Wilderness Speaker Series: “The Wild is Consequential: Grizzlies, People and Sharing the Land” - 7 p.m., Flathead Valley Community College, Art and Technology Building, room 139, Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation and Montana Wilderness Association, 406-387-3847

**March 6**  
FVCC’s Got Talent - 7-9 p.m., Flathead Valley Community College Arts and Technology Building, 406-756-3814

**March 15**  
Glacier Symphony Orchestra: “Into Paradise” - 3 p.m., Flathead High School Performance Hall, 406-407-7000

**March 19**  
Loud at the Library - 5:30-8:30 p.m., Flathead County Library, 406-758-5820  
Mike Huckabee: “For Such a Time as This” - Flathead County Fairgrounds, 406-752-4400  
“Stories From The Top – Glacier’s Fire Lookouts” - 6:30 p.m., Conrad Mansion Museum, 406-755-2166  
Winter Art Maker Series: Karen Leigh - 5:30-7 p.m., Hockaday Museum of Art, 406-755-5268

**April 2**  
Wilderness Speaker Series: “A Walk on the Wild Side – A 200-mile hike in the Spirit of Bob Marshall” - 7 p.m., Flathead Valley Community College, Art and Technology Building, room 139, Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation and Montana Wilderness Association, 406-387-3847

**April 12**  
Glacier Symphony Choral: “Orchids in Spring” - 3 p.m., Flathead High School Performance Hall, 406-407-7000

**April 21**  
Alex DePue and Miguel De Hoyos - 7:30 p.m., Flathead High School Performance Hall, Flathead Valley LIVE On Stage, 406-862-3641

**April 24-25**  
Death by Chocolate - 7-10 p.m., Conrad Mansion Museum, 406-755-2166

**April 30**  
Symphony Soloist Spotlight: Claire Huangci, piano - 7:30 p.m., Glacier Symphony Recital Room, 406-407-7000

Lewistown

**March 21**  
Baxter Black - 7:30 p.m., Fergus Center for the Performing Arts, 406-535-6309

**March 30**  
Live From Nashville - 7:30 p.m., Performing Arts Center, 406-535-9503

Libby

**March 7**  
Libby Irish Fair - 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Memorial Center, 406-293-6407

**March 25**  
“Latino America, Latino Montana” - 6 p.m., Cabinet Mountain Brewing Company, 406-243-6022



Fiddler James Kelly performs in Missoula March 7 and Butte March 20 as part of A Springtime of Irish Music, sponsored by The University of Montana’s Irish Studies Program.

Livingston

**March 1, 6-8, 13-15**  
“Sylvia” - Blue Slipper Theatre, 406-222-7720

**March 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29**  
“Oklahoma” - Shane Center for the Arts, 406-222-1420

**March 27**  
Reading: Gary Ferguson - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-333-2330

**March 30**  
“Dispelling Modern Stereotypes” - 7 p.m., Yellowstone Gateway Museum, 406-222-4184

**April 15**  
“The Apsaalooke (Crow) in Yellowstone and the Gardiner Area” - 7 p.m., Yellowstone Gateway Museum, 406-222-4184

**April 30**  
Reading: Pete Fromm - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-333-2330

Lolo

**March 7, 14, 21**  
Winter Storytelling Series - 11 a.m., Travelers’ Rest State Park, 406-273-4253

Malta

**March 31**  
Alex Zerbe “The Zaniac” - 7 p.m., High School, Northeastern Arts Network, 406-489-4304

Miles City

**March 19**  
“UFOs and Extraterrestrials in Montana” - 6:30 p.m., Miles City Community College Library, 406-243-6022



Montana native Clipper Anderson is part of Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival March 26-27.

**April 16**  
“Home, Home on the Ranch” - 6:30 p.m., Miles City Community College Library, 406-243-6022

Missoula

**March 1**  
“Gulliver’s Travels” - MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-728-7529  
Missoula Symphony Orchestra: “Keys to the Heart” featuring Spencer Myer - 3 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-721-3194

**March 2**  
“Gandhi and the Global Travels of Non-Violence” - 5 p.m., UM Turner Hall Dell Brown Room, 406-241-9547

**March 3**  
Clint Black - 7 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-243-4051

**March 3-7**  
Dance New Works Program - UM Open Space, PARTV Center, 406-243-4488

**March 3**  
In Flames - 7:30 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521  
“Predilections and Possibilities: The Virtues of a Teaching Collection” - 7 p.m., Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019

**March 3-7**  
“Romeo and Juliet” - 7:30 p.m., Crystal Theatre, 406-202-1626

**March 3, 10, 17, 24**  
University of Montana Alumni Association Community Lecture Series: “Birds: Inside and Out” - 7-8:30 p.m., University Center Theater, 406-532-3240

**March 4**  
SnoCore Winter Music Tour Featuring Flyleaf and Adelita’s Way - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

**March 5**  
Visiting Artist Lecture: Melanie Yazzie - 5:10-6 p.m., UM Social Science Building, Room 356, Jim and Jane Dew Visiting Artist Lecture Fund, 406-243-2813

**March 6**  
Faculty and Guest Artist Series: Steven Helsa, piano - UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-4581

**March 6, April 3**  
First Friday, downtown, 406-532-3240

**March 7**  
A Springtime of Irish Music and Song: James Kelly - 7:30-9 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-544-0311  
Book Signing: Theo Ellsworth - 1-3 p.m., Missoula Art Museum, 406-728-0447  
Women’s Fair - 11 a.m.-4 p.m., University Center Ballroom, 406-203-4200

**March 8**  
Friends of Missoula Public Library Appraisal Fair - 1-4 p.m., Missoula Public Library, 406-721-2665

**March 10**  
Faculty and Guest Artist Series: All-Bach Concert - UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-4581

**March 12**  
Bone Thugs-N-Harmony - 7:30 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

**March 13**  
Heroes Are Gang Leaders - 9 p.m., Missoula Art Museum, 406-728-0447

**March 14**  
Odyssey of the Stars: “An Eye for Talent” - 7:30 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-243-4970

**March 14, 17, 24**  
The Met: Live in HD: “La Donna del Lago” - Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589

**March 15**  
Missoula Mendelssohn Club - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-251-2567  
Umphrey’s McGee - 7:30 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

**March 16**  
Jonny Lang - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521  
“The Ups and Downs of Capitalism” - 8 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-243-2311



Art Auction  
47: Festive  
evening at  
the YAM

The Yellowstone Art Museum celebrates its 47th annual art auction March 7 at the museum in Billings. The YAM’s most significant fundraising event generates proceeds to support exhibitions and educational programming for the entire year.

The Art Auction exhibition opened in January and remains on display through March 6. The display offers the public an opportunity to view this year’s artwork selections and bid on silent auction items.

The exhibition culminates in Art Auction 47, which includes the conclusion of the silent auction, a Quick Draw, cocktails and heavy hors d’oeuvres, all within the museum’s spacious galleries. Festivities begin at 5 p.m. March 7 and feature a dinner and dessert buffet catered by Thomas Nelson Catering. Live auction bidding begins at 7:30 p.m. The evening also includes a raffle drawing for exquisite jewelry donated by Montague’s Jewelers (ticket-holder need not be present to win).

Tickets to the event are \$95 per person and \$105 at the door. Call 406-256-6804 or visit [www.artmuseum.org](http://www.artmuseum.org).

EXHIBITIONS, MARCH/APRIL

Anaconda

**Copper Village Museum and Arts Center:** Elementary School Art Show, March 3-27; and High School Art Show, April 1-30; 406-563-2422

Arlee

**Hangin’ Art Gallery:** James and Nathan Boot, “Two Boots,” through March 22; 406-726-5005

Bigfork

**Bigfork Museum of Art and History:** Gretchen Finch, “Workers in Our Woods,” and area woodworkers, March 6-28, reception 5-7 p.m. March 6; Bigfork Piecemaker Quilters, “Pieces of April,” April 3-24, reception 5-7 p.m. April 3; 406-837-6927

Billings

**MSU Billings Northcutt-Steele Gallery:** Zemer

Peled, “Sky Island,” through April 2; MSUB Juried Student Exhibition, April 9-30, reception 5-7 p.m. April 9; 406-657-2903

**Ryniker-Morrison Gallery,** Rocky Mountain College: All-RMC Student Art Show, March 12-April 1, reception 4-6 p.m. March 12; RMC Senior Art Show, April 10-May 2, reception 4-6 p.m. April 10; 406-657-1000

**Sandstone Gallery:** Billings Arts Association Members, March 1-31, reception 5-8 p.m. March 6; 406-256-5837

**Western Heritage Center:** “Who Are You, Who Are We?,” through April 30; “Secret Life of Artifacts: Native American Design,” through Dec. 19; 406-256-6809

**Yellowstone Art Museum:** Art Auction 47 Exhibition, through March 7; “Floyd D. Tunson: Son of Pop” and “Ride ‘Em: The Art of Will James,” both March 26-June 14, joint reception



Carol Hagan’s “Head Honcho” is part of the Yellowstone Art Museum’s Auction Exhibit in Billings.

5:30-7:30 p.m. March 27; “Radiance: Art from the Michael Ovitz Family Collection,” through April 5; and “Boundless Visions: Selections from the Permanent Collection,” ongoing; 406-256-6804

Continued on next page

Missoula (cont.)

March 17-21, 24-28  
“Pippin” - 7:30 p.m., UM Montana Theatre, PARTV Center, 406-243-4051

March 19  
Special Tapestry Viewing Event - 7 p.m., Montana Museum of Art and Culture, 406-243-2019

March 20  
Above and Beyond - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

March 20-22, 25-29  
“The Rainmaker” - MCT Center for the Performing Arts, Missoula Community Theatre, 406-728-7529

March 21  
A Springtime of Irish Music and Song: Liam O’Maonlai - 7:30-9 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, UM Irish Studies Program, 406-544-0311  
Dolce Canto: “Journey Home” - 7:30 p.m., St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 406-322-3547  
(Mini) Benefit Show - Stage 112 in the Elks Club, 406-549-7555  
“Penny Postcards and Prairie Flowers” - 1 p.m., Orchard Homes Community Center, 406-243-6022

March 22  
International Culture and Food Festival - noon-5 p.m., University Center Ballroom, 406-243-2226

March 24  
Trampled by Turtles - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

March 25  
Yonder Mountain String Band - 7:30 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

March 26-27  
Buddy DeFranco Jazz Festival - 7:30 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-243-4051

April 6  
Circa Survive - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

April 7  
“Genes as Therapies” - 8 p.m., UM Dennison Theatre, 406-243-2311

April 11  
Christopher Titus - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521  
Community Ties - 5-9 p.m., Missoula Art Museum, Missoula Children’s Theatre, Carousel for Missoula, 406-728-0447

April 12  
Celebrate Piano Series: Stephen Beus - 3 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-243-4581

April 15-16  
Determining the Future of The University of Montana Native American Ethnographic and Art Collection - University of Montana, 406-243-6022

April 16  
“Portraits That You Can’t Mess Up – Andy Warhol’s Big Shot Photographs” - 7 p.m., Missoula Art Museum, 406-728-0447

April 16-18  
Spring Art Fair - University Center Atrium, University Center Art Programming, 406-243-5622

April 16  
Visiting Artist Lecture: Akio Takimori - 5:10-6:30 p.m., UM Social Science Building, Room 356, Jim and Jane Dew Visiting Artist Lecture Fund, 406-243-2813

April 21  
Blue October - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521  
Neko Case - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

April 22  
Aaron Watson - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

April 22-25  
Dance in Concert - 7:30 p.m., UM Montana Theatre, PARTV Center, 406-243-4051

April 25  
Down The Hatch - A Fish Festival - 3-9 p.m., Wilma Theatre and Caras Park, 406-728-2521

April 25-26  
Missoula Symphony Orchestra: “Earth, Wind and Fire” - UM Dennison Theatre, 406-721-3194

April 25, 28  
The Met: Live in HD: “Cavalleria Rusticana” and “Pagliacci” - Roxy Theater, 406-322-2589

April 28-30  
“Welcome Home, Jenny Sutter” - 7:30 p.m., UM Masquer Theatre, PARTV Center, 406-243-4581

April 28  
“Welcome to Night Vale” - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

April 29  
“Warhol and Cinema: Andy Warhol: A Documentary” - 7 p.m., Roxy Theater, 406-728-0447

April 28  
Volbeat with Anthrax - 7 p.m., Adams Center, 406-243-4051



Alex Zerbe “The Zaniac” performs in Glasgow, Great Falls, Malta, Polson, and Sydney.

Plentywood

March 13  
“Happily Ever Aftering on a Montana Cattle Ranch” - 6 p.m., Gold Dollar Convention Center, 406-243-6022

Polson

March 8, April 12  
Sunday History Series - 1-4 p.m., People’s Center, 406-675-0160

March 12  
“Meet Herman Schnitzmeyer” - 6:30 p.m., Miracle of America Museum, 406-883-6804

April 10  
Alex Zerbe “The Zaniac” - 7 p.m., Polson High School Auditorium, Mission Valley Live, 406-883-3368

April 17  
Cowboy Ball - 6:30 p.m., Polson Fairgrounds, 408-883-1100

Red Lodge

April 7, 9, 14, 16  
“Ancient Visions: Understanding Montana Cave Art” - 7-8:30 p.m., Depot Gallery, 406-446-1370

Ronan

March 28  
Mud Bay Jugglers and the Tune Stranglers - 7 p.m., Ronan Performing Arts Center, Mission Valley Live, 406-883-3368

Seeley Lake

March 7  
Reading: Kim Zupan - 7 p.m., Grizzly Claw Trading Co., 406-677-0008

March 15  
Wine and Chocolate Social and Art Auction - 2-5 p.m., Double Arrow Lodge, 406-754-0034

Sidney

March 26  
Alex Zerbe “The Zaniac” - 7 p.m., MonDak Heritage Center, Northeastern Arts Network, 406-489-4304

Stevensville

March 1, 6-8  
“Alice in Wonderland” - Stevensville Playhouse, 406-777-2722

March 6, April 3  
First Friday - 6-9 p.m., downtown, 406-777-3773

April 18  
Old-time Bluegrass Festival - noon-10:30 p.m., Lone Rock School, Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association, 406-821-3777

Thompson Falls

March 20-21  
Pretty Darn Good Variety Show - 7 p.m., Rex Theater, 406-531-0828

Virginia City

March 21, April 18  
Winter Chautauquas - 6:30 p.m., Elling House, 406-843-5454

Whitefish

March 1  
“The Hobbit” - 4 p.m., I.A. O’Shaughnessy Center, Whitefish Theatre Company, 406-862-5371

March 7  
Okaidja and Shokoto - 7:30 p.m., I.A. O’Shaughnessy Center, Whitefish Theatre Company, 406-862-5371  
Shake Your Tail Gala - 5:30 p.m., Cooper’s Steakhouse, Humane Society of Northwest Montana and Leadership Flathead, 406-752-PAWS

March 14-15  
Black Curtain: “Radium Girls” - 7:30 p.m., I.A. O’Shaughnessy Center, Whitefish Theatre Company, 406-862-5371

March 14  
Glacier Symphony Orchestra: “Into Paradise” - 7:30 p.m., Whitefish Performing Arts Center, 406-407-7000

March 21  
The Met: Live in HD: “La Donna del Lago” - 7 p.m., Whitefish Performing Arts Center, 406-862-7591

April 8-11, 16-18  
“Venus in Fur” - 7:30 p.m., I.A. O’Shaughnessy Center, Whitefish Theatre Company, 406-862-5371

April 11  
Glacier Symphony Chorale: “Orchids in Spring” - 7:30 p.m., Whitefish Performing Arts Center, 406-407-7000

April 18-20  
“Legally Blonde, The Musical” - Whitefish Performing Arts Center, Alpine Theatre Project, 406-862-7469

April 24  
Moira Smiley and Voco - 7:30 p.m., I.A. O’Shaughnessy Center, Whitefish Theatre Company, 406-862-5371

April 25  
The Met: Live in HD: “Cavalleria Rusticana” and “Pagliacci” - 10:55 a.m., Whitefish Performing Arts Center, 406-862-7591



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## More auction action

Spring seems to sprout a plethora of art auctions in Montana, including events at Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls, and the Holter Museum of Art in Helena.

**Paris Gibson Square Art Auction, 5:30 p.m. April 11 at the museum in Great Falls:** the 18th annual auction features more than 100 pieces of juried art, including ceramics, jewelry, furniture, paintings, photography, and mixed-media works. A Quick Finish, gourmet appetizers, live music, and a silent auction are also on tap. Call 406-727-8255 or visit [www.the-square.org](http://www.the-square.org).

**Holter Museum of Art Gala and Auction, April 24 at the Gateway Center in Helena:** The annual fundraiser is one of the highlights of the community calendar each year, attracting artists and supporters from throughout the region. Artwork featured in the live auction will be on display at the museum March 24-April 23. Check [www.holtermuseum.org](http://www.holtermuseum.org) for ticket options or call 406-442-6400.

# EXHIBITIONS, MARCH/APRIL

## Billings (cont.)

**Yellowstone County Museum:** “Big Sky, Big Sacrifice: Yellowstone County During World War I,” through Dec. 31; 406-256-6811

## Bozeman

**Emerson Center Jessie Wilber Gallery:** John Saurer, “Parts of the Whole,” through May 1. Weaver Room Gallery: Sarah Maki, “Surfacing,” through June 5; 406-587-9797

**Four Winds Gallery in the Emerson Center:** Ken Morsette, through May 1; 406-586-8079

**Museum of the Rockies:** “Liberty on the Border: A Civil War Exhibit,” and “Dinosaur Revolution: Live Large,” through May 3. “Montana’s T. rex,” added to permanent exhibit April 11; 406-994-2251

**The Artists’ Gallery in the Emerson Center:** Children’s Art Show, April 1-30; 406-587-2127

## Butte

**Carle Gallery in the Butte-Silver Bow Library:** Marty Essen, “Inspiring Photos from Ferguson,” March 2-21, reception 2-5 p.m. March 21; Monica Bauer, “WorkingHoliday,” April 1-25, reception 2-5 p.m. April 11; 406-723-3361

**Uptown Café:** Growth Through Art, through March 7; 406-723-4735

## Colstrip

**Schoolhouse History and Art Center:** Gone to Pieces Quilt Show, closing reception 1-3 p.m. March 1; Busby, Lame Deer, St. Labre, and Colstrip All Student Art Show, March 9-26, reception 4:30-5 p.m. March 26; Bill Neumiller, “Nature’s Art,” April 13-30; 406-748-4822

## Glendive

**Dawson Community College Gallery 126:** Ali LaRock and Paul Noot, “Put a Bird on It,” through March 27; Amanda Heimbuch, March 30-May 15, reception 4-6 p.m. April 3; 406-377-9474



Stephen Gluekert’s interactive sculptures will be exhibited at the Lewistown Art Center in April.

## Great Falls

**Amazing Toys:** Deeling Gregory, ongoing; 406-727-5557

**Bert and Ernie’s:** Arts Association of Montana, “Never Too Much Pattern,” through March 27; “Cityscape,” March 27-May 29; 406-453-0601

**C.M. Russell Museum:** “The Russell Exhibition,” through March 20; “The Bison: American Icon, Heart of Plains Indian Culture,” The Browning Firearms Collection and the Charles M. Russell Collection, ongoing; 406-727-8787

**Four West Art League:** Doris Boyle, through March, reception 6-9 p.m. March 5; MSU Great Falls Art Students, April 1-30, reception 6-9 p.m. April 3; 406-727-7453

**Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art:** Art Auction Exhibit, March 26-April 11. Through March 21, Julia Galloway, “The Place It Is That We Call Home”; Colleen Fuhringer, “All Things Left Unsaid”; and Mary Ann Bonjorni, “Legends Are History.” Arts Association of Montana Group Exhibition, through April 8; “The Warrior Art of John Isaiah Pepion,” through April 13; and Great Falls Public School Exhibition, April 23-May 28; 406-727-8255

**Parking Garage at 315 First Ave. South:** Urban Art Project, through May 5, reception 5-7 p.m. March 2; 406-452-9315

**University of Great Falls Library:** “Re-envisioning Landscape: Contemporary Visions of the American West,” March 13-April 10, reception 5-7 p.m. March 18; 406-791-5375

## Hamilton

**Ravalli County Museum:** Ernst Peterson Photograph Montana Contest, through April 22, awards ceremony 6 p.m. March 19; 406-363-3338



Jill Brody’s “Hidden in Plain Sight” photography series is showing at the Holter Museum of Art in Helena.

## Hardin

**JailHouse Gallery:** “Touch of Class” Student Art Shows, grades 3-5, March 3-20; grades 6-8, March 24-April 10; and high school, April 14-30; 406-665-3239

## Helena

**1+1=1 Gallery:** Alaina Buffalo Spirit, John Andrew and Bill Ryder, “A Natural Connection,” through March 30; Nerissa Eckerson, Samantha Briegel and Sarah Magar, “Pattern and Surface,” April 1-May 17, reception 5:30 p.m. April 1; 406-431-9931

**Archie Bray Foundation:** Bray Community Class Student Exhibition, March 20-April 18, reception 6-8 p.m. March 20; “Beyond the Brickyard” closes March 7; UM and MSU Faculty and Student Exhibition, April 24-May 23, reception 6-8 p.m. April 24; 406-443-3502

**Carroll Art Gallery, St. Charles Hall:** Student Art Exhibit, March 23-May 1; 406-447-4302

**Holter Museum of Art:** Art Auction Exhibition, March 24-April 23. Through April 5, Jill Brody, “Hidden in Plain Sight”; Montana State University and University of Montana art faculties, “Across the Divide”; and Robert Harrison, “Helena Collects.” Jay Schmidt, “Beer and Football,” through March; Lewis and Clark County students, “Youth Electrum,” April 16-May 16, reception April 16; 406-442-6400

**Montana Historical Society:** “Gold, Glory, and Rebellion: Montana and the Civil War,” ongoing; “Montana’s Territorial Legacy: The Montana Historical Society,” through April 25; and “Eloquence in Wood: The Art of John L. Clarke,” through Fall 2015; 406-444-2694

**Secretary of State’s Office: Treasured Artist:** John Cadotte, through April; 406-444-2807

## Kalispell

**Hockaday Museum of Art:** Alan McNeil, “Open Space” and Theodore Waddell, “Featured Works,” both through April 18, joint opening reception 5-7 p.m. March 5 and “Meet the Artists” reception, 5-7 p.m. April 9; Students grades K-8, “Space Isn’t Just a Place,” through March 28; High School Students, “New Artists 2015,” April 2-30, reception 5-7 p.m. April 9; and “Timeless Miniatures,” April 23-May 23, reception 5-7 p.m. May 7; 406-755-5268

**Museum at Central School:** “Montana Modern,” through March. “History of the Flathead Valley,” “Indians of the Northwest,” “Turn-of-the-Century Demersville,” “Montana Pioneer Frank Bird Linderman,” and “Timber Industry of the Northwest,” ongoing; 406-756-8381

## Lewistown

**Lewistown Art Center:** Dan Palagyi, March 3-31, reception 4-6 p.m. March 7; Chad Steve and Stephen Glueckert, April 1-30, reception 4-6 p.m. April 4; 406-535-8278

## Livingston

**Livingston Center for Art and Culture:** “Adornment,” March 10-April 4, reception 6-8 p.m. March 20; and Community Art Show, through March 7; 406-222-5222

## Miles City

**WaterWorks Art Museum:** Educators’ Show, March 14-April 17, reception 1-4 p.m. March 14; Southeastern Montana Juried Exhibit, through March 6; Western Art Roundup, April 25-June 19; 406-234-0635

## Missoula

**4 Ravens Gallery:** Scot Herries, “Piece of Land,” through March, reception 5-8 p.m. March 6; William Munoz, “Elements in Motion,” through April, reception 5-8 p.m. April 3; 406-317-1543

**Artists’ Shop:** Kiki Renander, March 1-31, reception 5-8 p.m. March 6; Don Jones, Kate Davis, Steve Thornstenson, and others, “Birdfest,” through April, reception 5-8 p.m. April 3; 406-543-6393

**Missoula Art Museum:** Renée Brown, “Profusion,” through June 20, reception 5-8 p.m. March 6; Theo Ellsworth, “Thought Clouds - Narrative Works on Paper,” through June 26, reception 5-8 p.m. April 3; “Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts: Selected Works,” through March 21; Pat Zentz, “Trio,” closes March 28; “Fifth Grade Identity – In a Box,” closes March 13; and “Heavy Metal from the Collection: The Sculpture of Ted Waddell and Manuel Izquierdo,” closes April 4. “Four Decades of Collecting,” March 13-April 18, featuring selections from the permanent collection, including “Missoula County Art Collection: 1973-1994,” “MAM Permanent Collection: 1995 to Present,” and “Contemporary American Indian Art Collection.” Big Sky High School Art Club Exhibition, March 13-May 29; Jeneese Hilton, “Raven Reviewing Modern, A Gift to the Permanent Collection,” April 3-Aug. 22; and “The Andy Warhol Collection: Museum of Art/ Washington State University” April 9-Aug. 15; 406-728-0447

**Montana Museum of Art and Culture:** “The Art of the State: Celebrating 120 Years of the MMAC Permanent Collection,” through May 23; 406-243-2019

**Radius Gallery:** LeAnn Boyd, Pamela Caughey, Rick Phillips, Louise Lamontagne, and Barb Schwarz Karst, “Form in Action,” March 11-April 18, reception 5-8 p.m. March 13; 406-541-7070

**UM Gallery of Visual Arts:** Melanie Yazzie, “Strong Circles: Monotypes” and “MATRIX Press: New Editions 2012-2014,” March 5-26, joint reception 6-7 p.m. March 5; Crista Ann Ames and Tyler Nansen, MFA Thesis Exhibition, April 9-23, reception 5-6:30 p.m. April 9; and the BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition, April 30-May 15, reception 5-7 p.m. April 30; 406-243-2813

**University Center Gallery:** UCG Juried Show, UM Students, “Permutation,” March 2-27, reception 4-6 p.m. March 5; and Anthony Yazzie and Molly Murphy-Adams, “Paint, Ink and Thread,” April 6-24, reception 4-6 p.m. April 9; 406-243-5564

## Pablo

**People’s Center:** “Seasons of the Salish, Pend d’Oreille and Kootenai Tribes,” through June 30; 406-675-0160

## Plains

**Clark Fork Valley Hospital:** Art on the Walls: Student Show, through March 23; 406-826-8585

## Polson

**Sandpiper Art and Gift Gallery:** Ben Pease, Louie Still Smoking, Sierra Pete, and Dion Albert, “North, South, East and Wood,” through April 4; “aRt: The ‘R’ in aRt,” April 6-May 16, reception 5-7 p.m. April 10; 406-883-5956

## Red Lodge

**Depot Gallery:** Carbon County Student Exhibit, March 1-31, reception 1-3 p.m. March 14; Rocky Mountain Regional Juried Exhibit, through April, reception 3-5 p.m. April 4; Cheryl Dineen Ferrin with works by the artists she portrays, “Blackfeet Portrait Project: Blackfeet Artists and Their Work”; 406-446-1370

**Red Lodge Clay Center:** Chandra DeBuse and Sue Tirrell, March 6-April 24, reception 5-7 p.m. March 6; 406-446-3993

## Ronan

**The Red Poppy:** Betty Duncan, through May 23; 406-676-3010

## Sidney

**MonDak Heritage Center:** Peggy Ames Nerud and Mary Knapp, “Found Metal Finds Fused Glass,” March 20-May 2, reception 7 p.m. March 20; 34th Annual Quilt Show, through March 14; Youth Art Show, March 18-April 25; and Bonnie Zahn Griffith, April 28-June 6; 406-433-3500



Collaborative sculpture “Pooling Waters” by Peggy Ames Nerud and Mary Knapp is from the exhibit, “Found Metal Finds Fused Glass” at the MonDak Heritage Center through May 2.

# ABOUT VISUAL ARTISTS

## Alan McNiell, "Open Spaces"

March 5-April 18 at the Hockaday Museum of Art in Kalispell, with a reception 5-7 p.m. April 9

Artist's website: [alanmcniel.com](http://alanmcniel.com)

Alan McNiell, who earned a master's degree at The University of Montana, lives in the Yaak Valley. From this remote corner of Montana, he has worked as an independent studio artist for over 25 years, exhibiting in museums, galleries, and at art festivals throughout the West.

According to the artist, "Open Spaces" is a series of paintings that documents a unique time in history, "a world with connections to the old west, and also the 21st century." The images reflect "the wide open spaces that surround us here in the Rocky Mountain west, and also the idea of open space within a painting – where there's plenty of room for the thoughts and imaginations of others."

In his work, the artist roams freely through a wide array of subject matter. He creates whimsical images of gulls, chickens, crows and dogs; melds fresh, spontaneous brushstrokes with texturing from sharpened metal tools in a series of western landscapes; and combines painting and photography is a series he describes as "urban landscapes."

McNiell recently received a first place in painting at the 2014 Scottsdale Arts Festival; his work has also appeared in exhibitions at the C.M. Russell Museum of Art in Great Falls, WaterWorks Art Museum in Miles City, Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings, and the Northwest Museum of Art and Culture in Spokane, and was selected for the Missoula Art Museum's 2012 Montana Triennial.

His paintings are in numerous public and private art collections, including those of the University of Washington Medical Center, North Idaho College, and Washington State's Percent-for-Art.

## Sue Tirrell, Solo Exhibition

March 6-April 24 at the Red Lodge Clay Center in Red Lodge

Artist's website: [suetirrellceramics.com](http://suetirrellceramics.com)

Red Lodge native Sue Tirrell shares a collection of her latest ceramic wares, adorned with colorful folk-inspired illustrations.

"All my life I have loved making things with my hands," she writes. "Tree forts, doll clothes, sculptures of animals, pies, pottery, knitted socks, jam. I love the practice of choosing and assembling materials; getting physical with the process; following the piece from idea to tactile, useful, beautiful, delicious object."

"When I stand back and survey my efforts, I know the best part is yet to come ... sharing these gifts from my hands makes my efforts joyful, the work a pleasure."

Tirrell received a BFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University in 1997. She has been a resident artist at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena and California State University, Chico. She served as resident artist and education director at what is now the Waterworks Museum of Art in Miles City from 1998-2005, visiting 35 rural schools in a 200-mile radius with clay and multi-media art classes, including a portable raku kiln.

Tirrell's work has been included in juried and invitational exhibitions and she is represented by galleries in Denver, Livingston, Bozeman, Billings, Bigfork, Helena and Red Lodge. Her ceramic works are also part of permanent collections at several Montana museums, including the Yellowstone Art Museum, Archie Bray, WaterWorks Museum and the Montana Museum of Art and Culture; as well as the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art in Overland Park, KS.

Her platters and vessels are often adorned with fantastical creatures that seem to have romped out of a tale by the Brothers Grimm. "I draw inspiration for my decoration from many sources including early American pottery, folk art, children's books and fairytales," she says.

Tirrell lives, works, gardens and plays with her husband and two enthusiastic dogs in Pray.

## "The Warrior Art of John Isaiah Pepion"

Through April 13 at Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls

Artist's website: [www.pepionledgerart.com](http://www.pepionledgerart.com)

John Isaiah Pepion, an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Nation, shares 18 drawings on antique ledger paper that explore the warrior in Blackfeet culture.

"I am interested in the story of the Blackfeet warrior and ceremonial aspects of Blackfeet culture and how they may be represented through my artwork," he says.

The artist uses oil-based color pencils and ink to manifest ideas inspired by oral tradition, family history, traditional designs, personal experience, and dreams.



"Oreos" by Alan McNiell

Pepion was born in Kalispell and produced pencil drawings of mountains and tipis as a child. His grandfather, Daniel "Webb" Pepion Sr., helped mentor his drawing techniques and inspire his art. He's also received instruction and inspiration from Blackfeet artists Ernie Pepion and Terrance Guardipee.

He eventually earned an Associate of Arts degree from the United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND, and graduated from the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Santa Fe with a degree in museum studies.

Now considered an up-and-coming contemporary ledger artist, Pepion illustrates ideas stemming from his personal life and cultural history, and incorporates the colorful designs of the Blackfeet into his work.



"The Guardian" by John Isaiah Pepion

## Bill Ryder, "A Natural Connection"

Through March 30 at 1+1=1 Gallery in Helena, alongside works by John Andrew and Alaina Buffalo Spirit

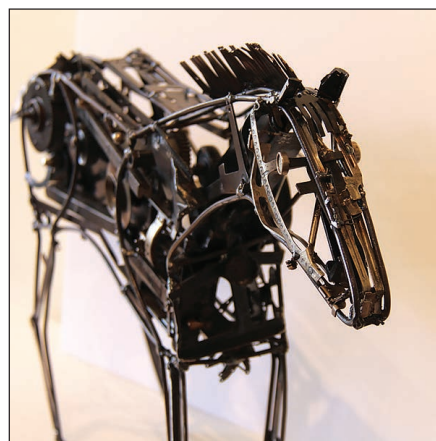
Artist's website: [www.ryderhorses.com](http://www.ryderhorses.com)

Helena sculptor Bill Ryder has been making his unique, life-size metal horses for years. Recently, he began to use telegraph wire and parts from manual typewriters and sewing machines to create the smaller "steampunk" horse sculptures on display in this show.

His sculptures have been shown at galleries in Helena, Belgrade and Augusta, and were featured last May in a one-man show at the Lewistown Art Center. His Musical Horse, created from old harmonicas, saxophones, a French horn, trumpet, Model-T car horn, xylophones, drums, trombones, and other musical instruments, was displayed at the Holter Museum of Art in Helena.

He's also donated his equines to several good causes in the community, including the Florence Crittenton Home, elementary schools (where he's helped kids create their own sculptures), Eagle Mount and the Tibetan Children's Education Foundation.

Ryder is a self-taught artist who began crafting horse sculptures about 12 years ago. Although he's never taken an art class, he's an experienced motorcycle mechanic and trained welder. His wife, Julie, helps him salvage ingredients from thrift stores, junkyards, and area ranches. Whether he creates works in polished stainless steel, rusty metal or driftwood, he seeks to reveal the powerful nature of the horse in simple, curving lines.



Steampunk Horse by Bill Ryder

## Marty Essen, "Inspiring Photos from Ferguson"

March 2-21 at the Carle Gallery in the Butte-Silver Bow Library, with a reception 2-5 p.m. March 21

Artist's website: [www.martyessen.com](http://www.martyessen.com)

On a recent college-speaking tour, Victor author and artist Marty Essen visited Ferguson, MO, where he captured images of boarded-up storefronts that the people of that community had used as canvases to deliver a powerful message to the world.

Ferguson was deeply divided after an unarmed 18-year-old black man was shot by a police officer there last summer. Essen took the photographs on Dec. 3, just nine days after a Grand Jury had decided not to indict the policeman.

"I remember driving toward my St. Louis-based hotel, debating: should I detour through Ferguson?" writes Essen. "Like many Americans I had seen the protests and burning buildings on television on the night of the verdict. Would it be wise for a white man to wander the city's streets so soon?"

He drove into town and was startled by what greeted him. "Instead of seeing burned-out buildings or violence, I saw a town where the people had made the best of a bad situation by turning boarded-up storefronts into amazing works of art."

Essen is no stranger to danger. While traveling the world, in search of rare and interesting wildlife, he was stung by one of the world's most venomous insects, bitten by a poisonous snake, surrounded by wolves and attacked by a hippo. He chronicled his unique adventures in his book, *Cool Creatures, Hot Planet: Exploring the Seven Continents*, and has since turned the story into a multi-media show, "Around the World in 90 Minutes," which he presents at colleges, museums, and nature centers across the United States.

Sharing images of Ferguson seemed like a way "to start the healing process" and begin a conversation "about what we can do to prevent similar tragedies from happening in the future."



"Together" by Marty Essen



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## Send your submissions for About Visual Arts

With About Visual Arts, *State of the Arts* continues to profile living Montana artists (no students, please), whose work is the focus of a current exhibit (on display during some portion of the two months covered by the current issue of *State of the Arts*).

Submissions must include:

- A digital image of the artist's work, with title of the piece (at least 200 dpi);
- A brief bio and description of the artist's work;
- Dates and title of exhibit; and
- The gallery or museum name, town and phone number.

MAC will select submissions that reflect a cross-section of gender, geography, styles and ethnicity, and are from a mix of public and private galleries and museums.

Deadline for submissions for the May/June issue is Wednesday, April 1. Send submissions to [write-us@livelytimes.com](mailto:write-us@livelytimes.com) with About Visual Arts in the subject line.

About Visual Artists  
compiled by Kristi  
Niemeyer



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## Call to Mural Artists for a Community Engagement/International Arts Exchange

Meridian International Center – a non-profit based in Washington, DC – is now accepting applications for the 2015-2016 Community Engagement through the Arts Exchange Program for American muralists.

Funded by the U.S. Department of State's Cultural Programs Division in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and with programming support from Meridian, four American artists will travel abroad to collaborate with local youth and underserved populations on community-based mural projects.

Artists will design, implement and administer a 3.5-week, in-country program based on local community issues for the country specified. Projects should be designed to advance U.S. foreign policy goals in that country by addressing a local community issue, such as youth or women's empowerment, gender-based violence, social inclusion, regional stability, and the environment.

Meridian is currently accepting applications for projects in Brazil, Cuba, India, and Turkey. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. EST on March 31.

Apply online at: [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org) (search for international mural).

# PUBLIC VALUE PARTNERSHIPS

## The Three Rs at work in Montana

Public Value Partnership grants between Montana nonprofit arts organizations and the Montana Arts Council champion the fact that the arts are of benefit to all the citizens of Montana and are worthy of state and federal investment.

Public Value Partnerships utilize three tools we call “The Three Rs” to expand the public value of the work being done by Montana's non-profit arts organizations:

- Building relationships;
- Creating greater relevance and meaning; and
- Establishing return on investment (measured both as economic vitality and impact on people's lives).

MAC believes that using “The Three Rs” strengthens participation, understanding and support from audiences, donors and funders. We'd like to share some of the best examples of these stories with you from 2013:

nationally in this study.

According to the latest results, Missoula's nonprofit arts organizations constitute a \$39.9 million industry, providing 1,455 FTE jobs, \$30 million in household income, and \$3.3 million in state and local revenue. These numbers are comparable with those of Boise, Tacoma, and Eugene – cities far larger.

In addition, the implications for cultural tourism are significant as well. Tourists spend an average of \$52 (not including admission) in arts-related spending, such as restaurants, hotels and transportation, compared to the national average of \$40. The full study can be found at [www.missoula-cultural.org/2012ArtsandProsperityReportforMissoula.pdf](http://www.missoula-cultural.org/2012ArtsandProsperityReportforMissoula.pdf).

This study was highlighted in the *Missoulian* on June 30, 2012, and in an editorial on July 8, 2012 ([missoulian.com](http://missoulian.com)). This study and the publicity around it fueled a continued interest in the connection between art and our local economic health throughout the year.

Randy Cohen of Americans for the Arts visited Missoula in late September 2012 to discuss this study and its implications.

The arts community now seems ready to leverage this

study for continued community discussion about Missoula's future. In contrast with previous public opinion about the relationship between art and the economy, people now seem to understand the connection. According to Larry Swanson, economist and director of the O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West, “Arts is the key for Missoula economically.”



**Whitefish Theatre Company:** The On Ensemble presents an outreach program to Whitefish Middle School students.

### Building Relationships

**Whitefish Theatre Company:** Whitefish Theatre Co. performed a Black Curtain Readers' Theatre presentation of “Lombardi.” Whitefish Credit Union, a local business and a strong supporter of the organization, asked if we would hold a special performance for its employees.

“Lombardi” represented strong individualism and inspirational leadership and the Credit Union management wanted to bring this performance to its staff members. More than 70 employees and management personnel attended the special performance held at the O'Shaughnessy Center. The events provided WTC with a new avenue for building relationships with our audience and supporters.

### Return on Investment: Economic Vitality

**Missoula Cultural Council:** In the spring of 2012 Americans for the Arts released *Arts and Economic Prosperity IV: the Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts Organizations and their Audiences*. As with the previous three studies, MCC coordinated the Missoula information, and Missoula was the lone Montana community to join the other 182 groups



**Missoula Cultural Council:** Executive Director Tom Bensen welcomes 200 attendees to the MCC Cultural Achievement Awards Luncheon, March 26, 2013. The annual event honors individuals and businesses whose outstanding work in the arts and humanities have made significant contributions to the community's quality of life. (Photo by Jonathan Qualben)



**Hamilton Players:** Molly and her stage mother, April Johnson, perform in the production, “The Women.”

### Return on Investment: Impact on people's lives

**Hamilton Players:** The Hamilton Players Youth Theater Program touches hundreds of lives each year, creating stronger community members by developing and encouraging self-confidence, self-esteem, and social skills. One such story is exemplified by the following letter, received from a youth theater school participant's parent:

*Dear Hamilton Players,*

*Today I had the great joy of accompanying my daughter to a school function. Normally she doesn't like to go to these things but was insistent that we go. So of course I jumped at the chance to take her.*

*Once inside I was met by one of her teachers who pulled me aside and wanted to tell me how much Molly had changed over the course of the year. They couldn't believe how this once painfully shy girl could have bloomed into this talkative, confident young girl.*

*One of her other teachers then joined our conversation and told us that she had seen Molly in her play and how blown away she was by the fact that Molly was not only standing up on that stage, but was really good at what she was doing.*

*I wanted to take a moment to share this story with you because as a parent hearing such things is so wonderful that you want to share them with the people who helped make them possible.*

*Molly auditioned for a play at the playhouse two years ago and had trouble standing on the stage, but Denise Rose cast her in the chorus. This year she auditioned for another play, and stood up on that stage without any fear and was cast in one of the lead roles.*

*I am very confident when I say that had she not been given the chance to stand up on the stage two years ago, she never would have auditioned for another play, or had the confidence she does now in her classroom.*

*Thank you! You provide an invaluable service to the community.*

The Hamilton Players note, “Molly has turned into an amazing young actress and is a wonderful asset to our production process. She is responsible and dependable with a wicked sharp sense of humor!”

## Making a case for the Montana Artrepreneur Program

By Sheri Jarvis  
Montana Artrepreneur  
Program Director

Artists are, by nature, inventors, engineers, explorers, and discoverers. Artists see possibility everywhere. To monetize that brilliance, however, is often the most daunting task for an artist, and talking about money is usually a conversation that most artists try their best to avoid.

Resistance to thinking and talking about money is not a character flaw, but it is frustrating to anyone with a natural mind for business. It seems so simple! “You're so talented, why don't you make (fill in the blank)? You could make a fortune selling (fill in the blank)!”

As inventors, the last thing an artist needs is advice on what to make. What artists do need, however, are practical business tools to reach



Sheri Jarvis

achievable goals of earning the money they deserve for the incredible work they do, and affirmation of “artist” as a credible profession. That's where the Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP) comes in, and it's been working well for Montana artists across the state for several years.

Nationwide, the resources to help artists gain credibility as working professionals are increasing and the idea of helping artists become successful entrepreneurs has hit the mainstream. Artists are finally being recognized as small business owners and savvy business gurus have lined up to help.

Google “art business coaching” and “make money making art” and the lists of resources are endless. The cost of services varies and some online resources promise to transform your career with a free webinar and one-hour consult. What could be easier?

**Continued on next page**

## FILM CLIPS NEWS FROM THE MONTANA FILM OFFICE

### Deny Staggs elected to Association of Film Commissioners board

In late 2014, Montana Film Commissioner Deny Staggs was elected to the board of the Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI). AFCI is a worldwide organization that elevates member film commissions' influence within the industry by providing educational courses, economic impact resources and insights from commissioners and communities around the world.

Board members engage closely with an advisory board comprised of MaryAnne Hughes of Walt Disney Studios, Jay Rowey of HBO, Kevin Logan of FOX and others. Staggs's appointment to the board further places Montana in a key position of access to the top projects that are best suited for our state.

### Montana Film Office returns to Sundance

The film office returned to the Sundance Film Festival in Utah, this time with Montana State University, CHISEL Industries, Headframe Spirits, and Montana singer-songwriter Kayla Adams in tow.

A long-time partnership with the Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI) and its publication, *Beyond Cinema*, brought the Montana Film Office back to Sundance to host a Montana-centric reception that featured a screening of the Butte-filmed short film, "The Orphan Girl," introduced by John and Courtney McKee of Headframe Spirits, and featuring music from Adams, a Kalispell native who is making a splash on the country music scene.

MFO was able to use the opportunity to be in Park City to meet with YouTube pioneers through a partnership with the *Hollywood Reporter*, Tim Daly of the Creative Coalition, Texas and Utah film commissions, and multiple filmmakers and producers.

Specifically, a renowned producer team with a film in the Sundance competi-

tion met with Staggs to discuss filming their next project this July in Red Lodge and Crow Agency. More information on that production will become available as MFO continues to work on the project.

### HBO may be shooting "Undaunted Courage" soon

It looks like this summer could finally be the year that the "Undaunted Courage/Lewis and Clark" shoots. HBO has informed the film office that while no specific filming location has been announced, there will be a significant amount of second unit and plate-shot filming in Montana this summer.

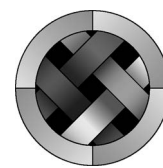
Montana is sure to see a boost in visitation along the Lewis and Clark Trail when this six-part mini-series airs. The MFO will be proactive in helping the impacted communities develop and promote their connection to this programming so each can benefit by this type of exposure. More to come on these opportunities as the project develops.

### HB 120: Big Sky On the Big Screen Act passes House

HB 120, which would reenact the Big Sky on the Big Screen Act and make permanent the availability of tax credits for the motion picture and television industries, passed the Montana House of Representatives with a vote of 60-40 with many members of the House Taxation Committee voting for the bill.

Republican Representatives Schwaderer (HD 14), Hertz (HD 12), and Olzweski (HD 11) spoke to the power of the Big Sky on the Big Screen Act as a tool for continuing to support Montana's growing media industries and as a marketing tool for Montana to the larger industries.

The bill has been referred back to the appropriations committee and is now undergoing evaluation for statutory appropriations within the bill. Any questions about the bill's progress or how you can get involved can be directed to Nik Griffith at MFO, [ngriffith@mt.gov](mailto:ngriffith@mt.gov) or 406-841-2879.



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## MONTANA POET LAUREATE

### How Sight Develops in a Dry Land

By Tami Haaland

She searches for flowers because she lives  
in a dry land, tan with variation.  
The occasional yellow or blue or brilliant white  
draws her, light for a hungry moth.

Later, the parts: leaves, petals, seeds.  
And later, the uses they might be put to:  
mayflowers threaded into bracelets,  
the flavor of wild onion and juniper.

She doesn't care for tame. She prefers  
incidental: yellow aster on sand,  
blue beetles in waxy cactus flowers,  
for three whole days a wild plum in bloom.



— Published in *The Same*, 2011; *Poetry Net*, March 2013; and *An Elk River Reader: Livingston and Billings Area Writers*, 2014

## MAP (from previous page)

Creating a **sustainable** life in the arts is complicated. There is no singular approach to building a business around creative expression and one thing is certain – it doesn't happen quickly. MAP is built on the principle of transformational learning by offering artists not only practical tools they'll use to build a sound business, but peer-to-peer mentoring to examine and personalize principles and goals, and the experience of community to balance and sustain the process.

It's also built on the theory that an artist must continue to nurture their art, as well as their art business. These features are what make MAP different from other business development resources for artists.

And, here's the best part. It works.

The Montana Arts Council recently contracted an outside agency to gather data from MAP participants from 2009 through April 2013. The survey was intended to help us better understand and quantify the impact of the program on participating artists.

The entire results can be found on the homepage of our website, but one of the most compelling statistics that came out of the research is that MAP artists saw a 275% increase in net sales since participating in the program. Net gain is where sustainability lives – it means that artists have learned through MAP, not simply to monetize their creativity, but to do it profitably.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in MAP, please visit our website at [www.art.mt.gov/folklife/folklife\\_business.asp](http://www.art.mt.gov/folklife/folklife_business.asp) or feel free to call me anytime at 406-865-0884.

### Nominations open for High Plains Book Awards

Nominations for the ninth annual High Plains Book Awards will be accepted through March 14.

The Billings Public Library Board of Directors established the High Plains Book Awards in 2006 to recognize regional authors and/or literary works which examine and reflect life on the High Plains, a region that includes Montana.

The 2015 Awards include 11 categories: Medicine and Science Book, Children's Book, Fiction, Non-fiction, Poetry, First Book, Woman Writer, Art and Photography, Short Stories, Culinary and Young Adult.

Nominated books must be published for the first time in 2014. Winners receive a \$500 prize and are invited to participate in the annual High Plains BookFest in October 2015.

Information and nomination forms are available at [highplainsbookawards.org](http://highplainsbookawards.org). Writers interested in participating in the festival should contact Writer's Voice director Corby Skinner via email: [corby@skinnerbenoit.com](mailto:corby@skinnerbenoit.com).

Questions concerning the nominations process should be directed to: Dee Ann Redman, assistant director of the Billings Public Library, [redmand@ci.billings.mt.us](mailto:redmand@ci.billings.mt.us).

## Montana Poet Laureate 2015

Poetry

### Nominations for the State's next Poet Laureate Deadline: Friday, April 1, 2015 at 5 p.m.

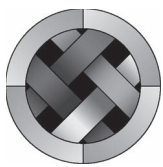
The Montana Arts Council encourages nominations of poets from all walks of life, and all poetry forms are welcome. Montanans may nominate a poet for the Poet Laureate position, or learn more about eligibility requirements, the application process and more about the Poet Laureate Program at: [http://art.mt.gov/resources/resources\\_plposition.asp](http://art.mt.gov/resources/resources_plposition.asp)

For more information please contact:

**Montana Poet Laureate Program**

**Kim Baraby Hurtle**

**[Khurtle@mt.gov](mailto:Khurtle@mt.gov) (406) 444-6639**



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### Webinars available for NEA grant applicants

Guidelines and application materials for the 2015 Art Works and Challenge America programs, supporting projects anticipated to take place beginning in 2016, are posted on the website, [arts.gov](http://arts.gov).

Any nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, unit of state or local government, or federally recognized tribal community with at least a three-year programming history is eligible.

In order to offer potential applicants the highest level of technical assistance, the NEA has scheduled webinars covering the basics of the Art Works and Challenge America funding categories, including how to apply to the NEA, how to select work samples, and how to prepare a strong application.

The Art Works webinar was scheduled for Jan. 21, and is archived in the webinar section of the NEA website; the next deadline for Art Works applications is July 23.

The Challenge America session is 3 p.m. ET on March 11. To sign up, go to [arts.gov](http://arts.gov) and look for the webinar section; the session will also be archived shortly after the event. The deadline for Challenge America applications is April 16.

## NEA News

# New reports from NEA offer surprising findings

Three reports from the National Endowment for the Arts reveal new findings about the impact of arts and cultural industries on gross domestic product (GDP), as well as how and why Americans participate in certain arts activities.

The data for the three reports is all from 2012, so for the first time the NEA can show a comprehensive view of a single year in the life of the arts and cultural sector from three different angles: supply, demand, and motivations for consumer behavior. The new information will help arts providers and others more effectively understand and develop strategies to engage individuals and communities in the arts.

“The implications from this research are significant,” said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. “The findings show that there is great diversity in how people engage in the arts, and this gives us

a framework to use our creativity to innovate new ways to reach these audiences.”

### Report 1: When Going Gets Tough: Barriers and Motivations Affecting Arts Attendance

In 2012, the National Endowment for the Arts partnered with the General Social Survey to ask why people attend arts events (specifically music, dance, theater, and visual arts). This new report looks beyond demographics to discover the attitudes, motivations, and barriers for attending the arts at different life stages – the first time the NEA has published a report on this type of data.

There were common barriers for the 13% – 31 million adults – who were interested in a specific event, but did not go for some reason:

- Nearly 60% of people with children under age 6 said lack of time was the greatest single barrier to attendance. This finding could inspire arts providers to develop more family-friendly program options.
- Some noted that the location was too difficult to get to. This was especially a problem for retirees, older adults, and adults with physical disabilities. If we’re quantifying the value of what we often term “access to the arts,” it’s about 11 million lost audience members or exhibit-goers.
- 22% of those who wanted to attend but chose not to said a barrier was not having someone to go with.

Motivations include:

The top reasons Americans attend the arts (performances and exhibits) include socializing with friends or family members (73%); learning new things (64%); and supporting the community (51%).

Despite similar household incomes and education, people who call themselves middle-class were more likely to attend the arts than those who identified themselves as working class. Thwarted interest, rather than lack of interest, may be the cause for lower attendance rates among some audiences.

Life stages – pursuing higher educa-

tion, marriage, child-rearing, and retirement – are often more predictive than age alone, as a factor in attending the arts. For example, parents with young children under age 6 more often cited so-

cializing with family or friends, learning new things and celebrating cultural heritage when they attended performances accompanied by their children.

For more key findings, go to Arts Data Profile #4 at <http://tinyurl.com/kh9ocf5>.

### Report 2: A Decade of Arts Engagement: Findings from the Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, 2002-2012

The Survey of Public Participation in the Arts (SPPA) is the largest and most comprehensive survey of U.S. arts participation, with a total sample size exceeding 37,000 adults, ages 18 and over. The latest SPPA compares arts participation rates based on surveys from 2002, 2008 and 2012, as well as regional, state and metro-area statistics.

A new question in the 2012 survey revealed that adults who attended performing arts or visited museums as children were three to four times as likely to see shows or visit museums as adults. Exposure to the arts in childhood turns out to be a stronger predictor of adult arts participation than education, gender, age or income.

Technology is a great enabler of arts creation and participation. In 2012, nearly three-quarters of American adults – about 167 million people – used electronic media to view or listen to art, and large proportions of adults used electronic media to create music or visual art.

Women participate in the arts at higher rates than men across all categories, except a few. For example, men are more than twice as likely as women to use electronic media to create or perform music, and they are also more likely to create visual art online.

More than half (54%) of all American adults attended at least one live music, theater, or dance performance in the past year, or they went to view an art exhibit. That’s about 120 million people.

For more key findings, go to Arts Data Profile #5 at <http://tinyurl.com/pnv9b9q>.

### Report 3: The Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account

The ACPSA, a partnership between the NEA and the Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Economic Analysis, is the first federal effort to provide an in-depth analysis of the arts and cultural sector’s contributions to current-dollar gross domestic product (GDP), a measure of the final dollar value of all goods and services produced in the United States. The revised estimates reveal the arts are a bigger driver of GDP and jobs than previously estimated. Among the new estimates are:

- In 2012, arts and cultural production contributed more than \$698 billion to the U.S. economy, or 4.32% to the U.S. Gross Domestic Product, more than construction (\$586.7B) or transportation and warehousing (\$464.1B).
- 4.7 million workers were employed in the production of arts and cultural goods, receiving \$334.9 billion in compensation.
- Arts and cultural spending has a ripple effect on the overall economy, boosting both commodities and jobs. For example, for every 100 jobs created from new demand for the arts, 62 additional jobs are also created.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis highlights the Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account in the January edition of the Survey of Current Business at [www.bea.gov/scb/](http://www.bea.gov/scb/), widely read by economists and financial analysts to understand the state of the U.S. economy.

For more key findings, go to Arts Data Profile #6 at <http://tinyurl.com/ky6pt6f>.

The underlying data for the SPPA and GSS research reports are available to researchers, policymakers, and arts practitioners via a brand-new online resource. Through the National Archive of Data on Arts and Culture (NADAC), the NEA provides free access to the data files and related resources, as well as a user-friendly platform for querying the data.

To join the discussion on how art works, visit the NEA at [arts.gov](http://arts.gov).

## Montana Nonprofit Association lists member benefits

The Montana Nonprofit Association (MNA) seeks to leverage group-buying power to secure favorable prices for quality products and services for its member organizations. Products and services include:

### Insurance

**Health Insurance:** Employers with 50 or more employees are eligible to participate in MNA’s Group Benefits Trust (GBT), which keeps rates stable through large group purchasing power.

**Unemployment Insurance Alternative:** Instead of paying the state unemployment tax, 501(c)(3) organizations can opt out and elect to reimburse the state for validated claims paid to former employees. This often translates to savings of 40% to 60%.

**Directors and Officers Liability Insurance:** MNA offers both comprehensive insurance, which provides broad coverage and the ability to lock in rates for two years, and small organization coverage designed for organizations that have not had D&O coverage before.

**Business Insurance:** PayneWest, MNA’s provider of Commercial and General Liability Insurance for members, works with MNA to strengthen existing insurance programs and

continue to research new business insurance programs to increase competition and provide specialized opportunities.

**Portfolio of Personal Insurance Products:** MNA, with the help of Leavitt Group West, offers Aflac, which provides each employee with a “Portfolio of Personal Insurance Products” to choose from.

### Fundraising

**Credit Card Processing:** Frontline Processing, a PCI Level 1 Processor with data security as its top priority, offers an easy way to accept donations. MNA members save up to 60% on processing fees and a free terminal for making the switch. Local customer support is available.

**Grants Database:** MNA members can purchase an annual subscription to GrantStation for \$75 – more than 85% off the regular price of \$599. As an added benefit, all MNA members receive the *GrantStation Insider* weekly eNews.

### Employment

**Nonprofit Career Center:** The Nonprofit Career Center is an online nonprofit job board where applicants can post resumes and seek jobs and employers can look for qualified ap-

plicants. MNA members pay \$45 for a 45-day vacancy announcement - less than one-third of the regular rate.

### Administration

**Office Supplies:** The Staples Advantage program is designed to offer MNA members competitive prices, easy ordering, free delivery (two days), and excellent customer service.

**Printing and Publishing:** PrintingforLess.com provides printing services, including online design and layout, that make it easy to develop flyers, brochures, and other printed material. MNA members save 15% off their purchase from a local company, nationally known.

**Voice and Web Conferencing:** MNA members pay less than 4 cents per person per minute for toll free, no-reservation access. You can add a web presentation component for 8 cents more (per person per minute).

### Membership

MNA has two types of membership: Nonprofit and Affiliate. Nonprofit membership is limited to 501(c)(3) organizations. Affiliate membership is for all other exempt organizations, governmental entities, businesses, consultants, and individuals. For details, call 406-449-3717 or visit [www.mtnonprofit.org](http://www.mtnonprofit.org).

## LAW AND THE ART WORLD

## Scams and other continuing nuisances

By Bill Frazier ©2014

Artist readers continue to be solicited by a variety of scam promoters attempting to get into their pockets and bank accounts. Congratulations to those of you who recognized these ploys and called me for support and advice. The solicitations are consistent, but the English wording and approaches are becoming more correct and sophisticated.

The typical approach involves several steps and operates more or less as follows: you, as an artist, will receive a call, email or letter from an overseas “customer” praising your work and wanting to buy one or more pieces for a family special occasion, anniversary or wife’s birthday. Your work has just come to his attention, he wants it immediately, if not sooner, and a sense of urgency is imparted.

The person is always so busy that he must deal with an intermediary, for example, a friend, messenger or business associate, who is knowledgeable about artwork and often works at an important-sounding job. From all the artists in the world, your work has been selected for purchase.

There is a convoluted discussion about sending a courier to assist in packing and shipping and that the piece will be sent to a third-party recipient out of the country. However, before the courier arrives, the customer will send a cashier’s check for substantially more than the price of the artwork. These additional funds are to assist with the shipping, but, in the meantime, you must get cash for the difference and give the extra amount to the courier.

What you do not know is that the check is counterfeit, and you will be out not only your artwork, but also the cash.

A variation on this scheme is that the counterfeit cashier’s check is sent and in the meantime, a family tragedy has occurred, and the sale must be cancelled, but since you have cashed the check, you are directed to return the purchase price (the cash) to the “courier.” Again, since the check is fake, and sometimes it takes the bank several days to discover this, you are out the money turned over to the courier. In the first example, you lose both the artwork and the cash; in this version, just the cash.

I have written about this situation enough times that readers are beginning to recognize the technique, and often call to tell me about their experiences. The flip side is that the scammers are getting a little more sophisticated, using better English grammar and less involved scenarios in their approach to artists.

The basics remain the same, however, with the foreign buyer, the urgency and the counterfeit bank or cashier’s check. If you experience this type of offer of purchase, be diligent and suspicious.

## Tax season approaches

As we approach the tax deadline, be aware that there are major tax changes coming into play for 2015, so be diligent about this as well and stay in touch with your CPAs. Tax rates will be changing and there will also be changes in deductions and other elements we have taken for granted for years. I will write more about this in the next article.

The “good investment” issue continues to come up with both artists and galleries hyping their works. Artists should not present their work as “investment” quality, and galleries, especially, should not use this terminology because of potential legal liabilities they could incur.

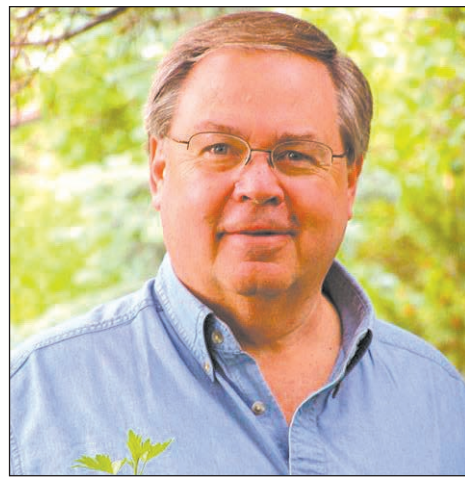
Similarly, neither artists nor galleries should refer to their buyers as “investors.” When buyers are induced to purchase an item based on assurances of investment value, legal protections for the buyer come into play. Most galleries are not equipped to deal with such issues and resulting legal ramifications.

From the IRS standpoint, investment work cannot be hung on the wall to be enjoyed, anyway. So, do not create gratuitous liabilities for yourselves just to sell art work.

As in years past, I have made my summer tour of many galleries around the West and have pretty much the same observations as in years past. I make almost the same comment every year.

The two things that bother me the most are first, all the hype that some artists seem to generate, and second, all of the hype associated with giclee prints in whatever format.

So, when a gallery representative wel-



Bill Frazier

comes me into a gallery with the comment that the first artist’s work that I look at is the best “investment” I can make this year, I am ready to leave. I will probably not buy any of that artist’s work and will buy nothing from that gallery. As a person who actually buys artwork, let me assure galleries and sales representatives, that this is not the approach to take with most buyers.

## Giclees: Not original artworks

There seems to be much confusion about what a giclee print actually is. I am bothered when such prints are included in the originals section of a gallery or included with etchings, serigraphs and other actual prints made by the hand of the artist. Salespeople often do not know what they are or are not, and artists hype them. They are just prints, for example, reproductions. They may be very good and signed, or not, by the artist, and enhanced or not, but they are still reproductions.

Just let them be what they are, excellent quality images for either beginning collectors or buyers who love the subject. They emphatically are not original works of art. Why continue to portray them as anything else?

Bill Frazier served a lengthy and invaluable tenure as chairman of the Montana Arts Council. He can be reached at [artlaw@itstriangle.com](mailto:artlaw@itstriangle.com). MAC thanks *Art of the West* for permission to reprint this series.



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## Four common LinkedIn mistakes to avoid

Social media tools like LinkedIn are meant to be helpful.

Don’t make these four mistakes:

- **Inappropriate photos.** LinkedIn is your online resume. Keep it neat and classy.

- **Lack of privacy.** If you look at someone’s profile, they get a notification. Don’t forget to control your privacy settings.

- **Linking to personal accounts.** Don’t link to your Facebook or Twitter pages if posts are unprofessional.

- **Not taking advantage.** LinkedIn offers many features (adding photos, links, etc.). Use them.

Info: [is.gd/5LinkedIn](https://is.gd/5LinkedIn)

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## Tech Talk: Taking your life back from Facebook

By Mark Ratledge

In this modern age, we are immersed in social media from the moment we wake up. It’s everywhere: in the business world, in family connections and with work. But as with everything high tech that is so persuasive in life, there is another side to the story.

Maybe you have realized you spend hours scrolling through Facebook updates and are tired of the time drain. And you’ve probably heard of the security and data-collection backlashes against social media. And you’ve seen the ads on Facebook that “know” the other sites you have visited or what you have shopped for. Facebook’s secret experiments last year with manipulating news feed content for research purposes were unsettling, even though all users agreed to such tests when clicking through Facebook’s terms of service agreement.

After all that, you may feel like the frog in hot water, not knowing beforehand that it’s about to be boiled alive. But it’s not too late. You can quit social media.

I’m seriously considering quitting Facebook. Though I like posting news articles and things of interest and seeing what others have to say, I’m aware that it’s a huge time drain. We can limit what we see on our Facebook news feed, but still: the friend

requests and the postings from friends of friends just get to be too much sometimes. And the security and data-collection implications of Facebook continue to get worse.

So how does one delete a Facebook account? It’s no surprise that Facebook doesn’t make it easy to quit. It’s their business model. It’s actually easier to go to a website called [deletefacebook.com](http://deletefacebook.com) and read about the process than navigate through Facebook’s own help documents.

Deletefacebook.com is run by a web developer named Edward Cant who lives near London. He gives a full rundown on how to delete your Facebook account. He points out that when you start the process to delete your account – and it is a process – don’t even log back into Facebook before the end of two weeks. If you do, your delete request will be canceled. And what Facebook calls “deactivation” isn’t deleting. Your account will remain in a dormant state, but it is still there, ready to be reactivated.



Mark Ratledge is an information technology consultant. Check his website at [markratledge.com](http://markratledge.com).

Of course, it’s not possible to delete everything that you’ve posted on Facebook over the years (which reinforces the old idea that you should be careful what you post online, anyway). Some emails and photos will stay in other people’s accounts and timelines; that’s the way Facebook works.

Cant advises people to post an “Account Deletion Epitaph” to inform people why you’re quitting and asking them to delete your

emails and photos and to not post anything in the future that personally identifies you. He also reports that he gets 185,000 hits a month on his site, which shows the interest in quitting Facebook.

Maybe you find can’t fully quit Facebook if your social media presence is tied to a business or organization or family. But maybe you can start a new Facebook page for your business life and pare back or delete your personal page.

If you feel overwhelmed, look into taking back your life from Facebook.



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Creative Capital offers online program for artists

Developed by artists for artists, Creative Capital’s Professional Development Program (PDP) provides career, community and confidence-building tools to help all artists become successful artists.

In addition to in-person workshops held through the country, PDP hosts up to six webinars each month specifically designed to guide individual artists of all disciplines in growing and sustaining their careers. Topics range from Art Business Management, Budgeting and Marketing to Community Engagement, Performance Documentation and Social Media.

Visit [creative-capital.org/pdp/online](http://creative-capital.org/pdp/online) to view the calendar, register for upcoming webinars, sign up for the mailing list, and purchase recordings of past sessions.

OPPORTUNITIES

Disclaimer: No endorsement is intended or made of any product, service or information either by its inclusion or exclusion from the Opportunities section of the *State of the Arts*. While all attempts are made to ensure the correctness and suitability of information under our control and to correct any errors brought to our attention, no representation or guarantee can be made as to the correctness or suitability of that information or any other linked information presented, referenced or implied. All critical information should be independently verified.

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, State of Montana

**The Gallatin Art Crossing** in Bozeman seeks durable and sustainable works to withstand the elements in any media for display in downtown Bozeman for one year. The selected sculptures will be open to the viewing public for 12 months from July 2015-2016 and may be voted on for the People’s Choice Award. One of the goals of GAC is to purchase at least one piece per year. Visit [www.gallatinartcrossing.com](http://www.gallatinartcrossing.com) or call 406-579-1256 for details. DEADLINE: June 15, 2015.

**The Dana Gallery** in Missoula seeks applicants for “Icons of the West,” an independently juried exhibition, May 15-June 30, 2015. All mediums will be considered with a \$2500 Best of Show Award and a \$1000 award for Most Original Thematic Interpretation. Additional categories receiving awards include Best Landscape, Best Figurative, Best Traditional Western, Best Contemporary Western, and Best Critter. Visit [www.danagallery.com](http://www.danagallery.com) or email [iconsofthewest@danagallery.com](mailto:iconsofthewest@danagallery.com) for details. DEADLINE: April 9, 2015.

**The Hockaday Museum of Art** in Kalispell is seeking applicants for numerous events. The national juried Timeless Miniatures Exhibition, April 23-May 23, will feature the work of 40 artists and includes cash awards. DEADLINE: March 7, 2015. The Plein Air Paint Out, held in Glacier National Park June 17-19, invites applicants chosen by a jury to bring two pieces of their choice to the Plein Air Party and Sale on June 20 and pieces will be on exhibit June 25-July 25. DEADLINE: April 4, 2015. Applications are sought for the 47th annual Arts in the Park, July 17-19, with over 100 juried art and craft booths. No soaps, food or commercially-made goods are permitted. The three-day arts and music festival attracts over 10,000 people. Applications require five digital images in jpg format – four images of work and one image of booth set-up, plus a \$25 fee. DEADLINE: April 4, 2015. The Summer Members Salon exhibition, July 30-Sept. 5, seeks artist members to apply by July 25. Apply on-line at [www.hockadaymuseum.org](http://www.hockadaymuseum.org) or call 406-755-5268.

**The City of Missoula Public Art Committee** invites Montana artists living west of the Continental Divide to apply for a public art project to create art for Pineview Park in the Rattlesnake neighborhood with a total budget of \$10,000 for the design, execution and installation. Artwork should reflect one or more characteristics of the park. The committee will consider two possibilities: 1) a proposal for the purchase of an existing artwork, or 2) a detailed proposal for new work. Details available at <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/438/Public-Art-Committee>. DEADLINE: March 20, 2015.

**The Ennis Chamber of Commerce** seeks artwork entries for the 80th annual July 4th parade with the design theme of “Boots, Chaps and Cowboy Hats.” Artists may submit up to two original entries; \$10 entry fee. Prize includes \$100 chamber cash, five tickets to NRA Ennis Rodeo, artwork on over 600 t-shirts, and more. Visit [www.ennischamber.com](http://www.ennischamber.com) for details. Forward entries to [info@ennischamber.com](mailto:info@ennischamber.com) or Ennis Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 291, Ennis, MT 59729. DEADLINE: April 30, 2015.

Advocacy Resources

- The following list of resources is from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies:
- Advocacy Tools: [www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/index.php](http://www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/index.php)
  - Why Should Government Support the Arts? [www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/Why-Government-Support/index.php](http://www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/Why-Government-Support/index.php)
  - The NASAA Advocate Series: [www.nasaa-arts.org/Publications/The-NASAA-Advocate.php](http://www.nasaa-arts.org/Publications/The-NASAA-Advocate.php)
  - Federal Legislative Updates: [www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Federal-Updates/index.php](http://www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Federal-Updates/index.php)

Want the latest info on opportunities?

Using email, the arts council manages three biweekly information newsletters that provide current and ongoing opportunities. Artists, arts organizations and arts educators each have their own newsletter. To sign up for any or all of these information tools, email KarenDe Herman at [KHerman2@mt.gov](mailto:KHerman2@mt.gov) or look for the sign-up form on our website and in the newspaper.

**The Madison Valley Arts Festival** in Ennis seeks artists working in all media for the 20th annual juried outdoor show, Aug. 8. Visit [www.ennisartsassociation.org](http://www.ennisartsassociation.org), call Leesa Bingham, jury committee chairman, at 406-682-7272 or email her at [lbingham@3rivers.net](mailto:lbingham@3rivers.net) for details. DEADLINE: April 10, 2015.

**The Moss Mansion Historic House Museum** in Billings seeks juried art and craft vendors for the 27th annual SpringFest. Commercial products not accepted. The June 6 fundraiser attracts over 4,200 visitors. Visit [www.mossmansion.com](http://www.mossmansion.com) or call Stacey at 406-855-3387. DEADLINE: March 13, 2015.

**The Sandpiper Art Gallery** in Polson invites artists to submit up to three pieces of ready-to-display artwork for the April 6-May 16 exhibit, “The R in aRt.” The non-juried show fee is \$15 for non-Sandpiper member artists. DEADLINE: April 4, 2015. The gallery also seeks fine artists, artisans and vendors for the 44th annual juried outdoor art festival, Aug. 8. Visit [www.sandpiperartgallery.com](http://www.sandpiperartgallery.com) or call 406-883-5956 for details.

**The Yellowstone Art Museum** in Billings seeks artists and craftsmen selling handmade products for Summerfair 2015 being held July 11-12. This juried regional arts and crafts festival brings in over 10,000 visitors. Visit [www.artmuseum.org](http://www.artmuseum.org) for online application or call 406-256-6804 ext. 236. DEADLINE: April 15 for standard fees; May 15 with late fees applied.

**The Yellowstone Gateway Museum** in Livingston seeks past or current residents of Park County, as well as Yellowstone National Park, to submit one work of art in any medium for the “Exploring Yellowstone through ART” exhibit to run from May 1-Sept. 30. Size may not exceed 25 inches, and artwork must be of Yellowstone or be inspired in some way by the park. A brief story explaining the artist’s inspiration for the work of art is encouraged and may be included in the exhibit. Email Karen Reinhart at [kreinhart@parkcounty.org](mailto:kreinhardt@parkcounty.org) or call 406-222-4184 for details. DEADLINE: April 1, 2015.

**The Montana Watercolor Society** announces its 33rd annual juried art exhibit, Watermedia 2015, to be held at the Mountain Sage Gallery in Helena, Oct. 1-31. Juror of selection and awards is Gloria Miller Allen, AWS (over \$5000 in awards will be given). Workshop dates are Oct. 1-4. Visit [www.montanawatercolorssociety.org](http://www.montanawatercolorssociety.org) or email Michele Beck at [mtws2015media@gmail.com](mailto:mtws2015media@gmail.com) for details. DEADLINE: June 1, 2015.

**The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art** invites unsolicited artist proposals for future exhibits being booked at least two years from the present date. When applying, indicate whether or not you are interested in being considered for the Museum’s Annual Art Auction Exhibition. Visit [www.the-square.org](http://www.the-square.org) to obtain complete list of submission requirements to be sent to: Curator of Art, Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, 1400 First Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401, or email [info@the-square.org](mailto:info@the-square.org) for further details.

**Birds and Beasleys** in Helena seeks original nature-oriented art and gifts from Montana artists for its art and gift gallery. Indoor and outdoor pieces in all mediums and price range are welcome. Send samples to [info@birdsandbeasleys.com](mailto:info@birdsandbeasleys.com) or 2 S. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601.

**The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art** in Great Falls announces the return of their Gift Shop. Applications for art to be consigned will be accepted by the first Thursday of each month, and be juried by a committee of at least three people. All media is welcome with a focus on con-

temporary and outsider art. Contact Tracy Houck, Executive Director, at [tracy@the-Square.org](mailto:tracy@the-Square.org) for application materials or call 406-727-8255.

**The Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture** in Bozeman is accepting applications for solo and group art exhibits in their three galleries. Applications from established and emerging artists of the region will be reviewed throughout the year. Call Heather Hardester at 406-587-9797 ext. 104 or visit [www.theemerson.org](http://www.theemerson.org) for information.

**The University of Montana Gallery of Visual Arts** is reviewing artist proposals for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 exhibition schedule. All media will be considered. Please submit proposal description, resume, artist statement, and images to [visarts@umontana.edu](mailto:visarts@umontana.edu) or mail to Cathryn Mallory, Gallery of Visual Arts, School of Art, University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812. DEADLINE: Ongoing.

**Lincoln Council for the Arts** seeks artists and craftspeople for its annual Art in the Park, Aug. 8-9 at Hooper Park in Lincoln. Original work only! The art fair coincides with Lincolnstock, a music extravaganza, and proceeds benefit the arts in Lincoln. Applications are available online at <https://sites.google.com/site/lincolncouncilforthearts/letter> or <http://lincolncouncilforthearts.weebly.com/art-in-the-park-2015.html>. Call Lisa Roberson at 406-362-7000 (work) or 406-362-4282 (home) for more information. DEADLINE: May 15, 2015

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, National

**The New Hampshire Women’s Caucus for Art** at Plymouth State University is hosting a national juried exhibition, “Force of Nature: Exploring the Power of the Feminine,” July 6-Aug. 14, 2015. Artists from all 50 states are encouraged to submit up to three pieces and may include 2D, 3D, video, installation and performance art based on the broadly interpreted theme. Concepts may range from myth and legend to the personal, historical or political, and may reflect Mother Nature and her natural forces, eco art and ecofeminism. Entry fee is \$25-\$30. Visit <http://wcanh.org/index.php/exhibitions/force-of-nature> for details. DEADLINE: March 30, 2015.

**Artfest Spokane 2015** in Spokane’s historic Browne’s Addition seeks artists for the 30th annual outdoor art and music festival, May 29-31. The juried exhibition features 150 artists offering high-quality artwork in 18 categories. Visit <https://www.zapplication.org/event-info.php?ID=5912> for details. DEADLINE March 9, 2015.

**The Artist’s Magazine Annual Art Competition** offers over \$24,000 in prizes, plus publication of winning work in the December 2015 issue. Visit [www.artistsnetwork.com](http://www.artistsnetwork.com) for details. EARLY-BIRD DEADLINE: April 1, 2015. REGULAR DEADLINE: May 1, 2015.

**ArtPrize 2015** is a radically open, independently organized international art competition that fills three square miles of downtown Grand Rapids, MI. For 19 days, Sept. 23-Oct. 11, art from around the world is on display examining the question of what is art and why it matters. Two grand prizes worth \$400,000 and eight category awards worth \$160,000 are offered. Visit [www.artprize.org](http://www.artprize.org) for details. ARTIST REGISTRATION: April 20-June 4, 2015.

**International Contemporary Artists** is a publishing project dedicated to the promotion of contemporary visual artists. Visual artists of various media are encouraged to enter this juried process for the eighth volume of this art series. Visit [www.incoartists.com](http://www.incoartists.com) or contact I.C.A. Publishing, 380 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10168.

Job Opportunities

**The Miracle of America Museum** in Polson seeks a seasonal or full-time artistic blacksmith to be a part of the museum’s “living history.” The museum has a large, well-equipped smithy with several forges, three power hammers, numerous anvils,



## The top crowd-funding sites:

- **Crowdrise** ([www.crowdrise.com](http://www.crowdrise.com)): Provides a public source for charity fundraising
- **Grow VC** ([www.growvc.com](http://www.growvc.com)): An international outfit that aims to connect profit-minded investors with entrepreneurs
- **Indiegogo** ([www.indiegogo.com](http://www.indiegogo.com)): A preferred choice for filmmakers, musicians and artists
- **Kickstarter** ([www.kickstarter.com](http://www.kickstarter.com)): The largest crowd-funding site, a haven for general-interest projects
- **Microryza** ([www.microryza.com](http://www.microryza.com)): Allows anyone interested to fund scientific research
- **Peerbackers** ([www.peerbackers.com](http://www.peerbackers.com)): Takes a business-oriented approach, catering to entrepreneurs and start-ups
- **RocketHub** ([www.rockethub.com](http://www.rockethub.com)): Offers exclusive real-world opportunities – e.g., gallery showings and musical showcases.

– From *The Costco Connection*, November 2012

forges, three power hammers, numerous anvils, swage blocks, tongs, and hand tools. The person must be able to explain the process and answer visitor’s questions. It is possible for person to sell wares at venue. While coal is preferred for exhibition, propane is permissible. The shop is large enough to accommodate more than one smith, and there is an adjoining foundry and vintage working machine shop. Contact Gil Mangels at 406-883-6264 or email [info@miracleofamericamuseum.org](mailto:info@miracleofamericamuseum.org).

**The Alberta Bair Theater in Billings** seeks volunteers to greet the public, assist patrons to their seats, distribute programs, and take tickets. Concessions workers and volunteers to assist the Executive Office on special projects are also needed. The theatre also seeks part-time patron service representatives to work evenings and some holidays to provide patrons with a positive experience at the theater. Activities include aiding patrons with accurate performance information, answering questions and assisting them in purchasing and/or picking up tickets to ABT performances. Send letter of interest and resume to [abt@albertabairtheater.org](mailto:abt@albertabairtheater.org) or P.O. Box 1556, Billings, MT 59103. Call 406-256-6052.

## Performing Arts

**The Big Hole National Battlefield**, located ten miles west of Wisdom, is looking for cultural demonstrators to share their stories and skills at the Coyote Camp, May 18-22, and during the Summer Speaker Series, weekends June 27-Aug. 16. Housing, mileage, per diem, and honorarium are provided. Email [BIHO\\_Visitor\\_Information@nps.gov](mailto:BIHO_Visitor_Information@nps.gov) or call 406-689-3155 for details. DEADLINE: April 1, 2015.

**The Whitefish Theatre Company** announces that original dance and music pieces are sought for “Talk of the Town: Under The Big Sky,” May 9 and 10. This show will explore a yet-to-be-determined topic decided upon by the community, and will be a fusion of community members’ stories, ideas and perspectives via art, writings, social media, theatre, music, and dance. Call 406-862-5371, email Jesse Devine at [jesse@whitefishtheatreco.org](mailto:jesse@whitefishtheatreco.org) or visit [www.whitefishtheatreco.org](http://www.whitefishtheatreco.org) for details.

**World Dance Movement** in Castellana Grotte, Italy, opens registration for the July 5-26, 2015, international workshop with its focus of presenting dancers with an opportunity to receive one-on-one training and attention in a noncompetitive atmosphere. The workshop builds connections between dance and diverse cultures, and challenges dancers of all levels through a comprehensive study-vacation model. Email [wdm@tezoroproductions.com](mailto:wdm@tezoroproductions.com) or call 212-582-1090 for details. (Registration opened December 2014.)

The overnight radio show, **Coast to Coast AM**, features selections from emerging artists. The show, which claims to be the most listened to overnight radio program in North America, airs on more than 560 stations in the U.S., as well as in Canada, Mexico and Guam, and is heard by nearly three million weekly listeners. Produced CDs and authorization to play may be mailed to: Tom Danheiser, Premiere Radio Networks, 15260 Ventura Blvd., 5th Floor, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403. For more details visit [www.coasttocoastam.com](http://www.coasttocoastam.com).

## Literature and Playwriting

**The Whitefish Review** seeks art, photography, fiction, non-fiction and poetry focusing on “Mythic Beasts and Monsters” for the summer 2015 issue. The Review is a nationally-acclaimed, non-profit journal of mountain culture. Visit [www.whitefishreview.org](http://www.whitefishreview.org) or call 406-261-6190 for details. DEADLINE: March 15, 2015.

**The Montana Quarterly** announces the second annual young writers’ Big Snowy Prize contest for short fiction and essay/nonfiction. Current or former Montana residents, 30 years or younger, are encouraged to submit up to 3,500 words. Winning entries will be published in the Summer 2015 issue and winners in each category will receive \$500. Submit a Word document to [editor@themontanaquarterly.com](mailto:editor@themontanaquarterly.com). DEADLINE: April 1, 2015.

**Reflections West** seeks 5-minute radio program submissions about literature and the history of the American West. Write a short piece and pair it with a favorite book, story, poem, essay, or play about the West to be aired on both Montana Public Radio and Yellowstone Public Radio. Visit [reflections.west.org](http://reflections.west.org) to see online examples and download submission guidelines.

**Lost Horse Press** in Sandpoint, ID is accepting submissions for the Idaho Prize for Poetry 2015.

All U.S. poets are eligible. The contest carries a \$1,000 cash prize, plus publication by Lost Horse Press. Visit [www.losthorsepress.com](http://www.losthorsepress.com) or call 208-255-4410 for details. DEADLINE: May 15, 2015.

**ALVA Axiom** solicits short works of literature, not more than 7,500 words in length, to publish and distribute in their weekly online missile. The intent is to provide the discerning reader a healthy mix of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Email Roberta Roy at [robertamroy@alvapressinc.com](mailto:robertamroy@alvapressinc.com) or [robbiedobb@aol.com](mailto:robbiedobb@aol.com) or use the contact link at [alvapressinc.com](http://alvapressinc.com).

## Workshops

**The Montana Fiddle Camp** at the St. Thomas Church Camp between Great Falls and White Sulphur Springs offers classes, workshops, concerts and dancing, June 7-12 and 14-19. World-class musicians teach fiddle, guitar, banjo, mandolin, cello and bass. Visit [www.montanafiddlers.org/camp.html](http://www.montanafiddlers.org/camp.html) or call Fred Buckley at 406-320-1150.

**Lian Zhen** offers a four-day workshop, May 13-16, in Missoula. The watercolor/Chinese painting artist will work with beginners through professional artists. Cost is \$295; deposit required. Contact Dorothy Patent at 406-546-6569 or email [doropatent@gmail.com](mailto:doropatent@gmail.com) for information.

**The Missoula Art Museum** offers an ongoing Open Figure Drawing session, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 3-31 and April 7-28; Saturday Family Art Workshop: Crystallography with Renee Brown, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. March 14; “Raptors and Art” with Kate Davis and Bev Glueckert, 1-3:30 p.m. March 28 (\$28-\$30); and Saturday Family Art Workshop: Book Sculpture with Jolena Ryan, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. April 11. Visit [www.missoulaartmuseum.org](http://www.missoulaartmuseum.org) or call 406-728-0447 for details.

**The Stumptown Art Studio** in Whitefish offers Fun at the Clayground with Brooke Nelson (ongoing); Glass Fusing with Melanie Drown, 6:30-8:30 p.m. March 11; Precious Metal Clay, 6-9:30 p.m. March 24 (\$80-\$85); Cultural and Art History Club, 1:30-3:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month; Canvas and Cocktails, 6:30-9:30 p.m. on the final Friday of each month; and Wild Women Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. Adult Open Studio times are noon-5 p.m. Sundays. Children’s art classes are also available. Call 406-862-5929 or visit [www.stumptownartstudio.org](http://www.stumptownartstudio.org) for details.

**The Arts Association of Montana** offers “Artists Helping Artists,” an opportunity to exchange art tips and ideas, 11:45 a.m. April 15 at the O’Haire Motel Inn. Call 406-788-2205 for details.

**The Vespiary Book Restoration and Bindery** in Missoula offers “Leather Longstitch Bookbinding,” 5:30-8:30 p.m. March 11 (\$50). The ancient, multi-signature book structure lays flat when opened; pages are sewn directly into the leather and make a decorative pattern on the spine. Visit [www.thevespiary.com](http://www.thevespiary.com) or call 406-396-1911 for details.

**The Archie Bray Foundation** in Helena offers “A Painterly Approach” with Heesoo Lee, April 18-19 (\$210); “Tea for Two: East Meets West” with Jennifer Allen and Shoji Satake, May 29-31 (\$335); and “Ceram-age a Trois: Pottery, Sculpture and Decoration” with Julia Galloway and Beth Lo, June 8-19 (\$795). Visit [www.archiebray.org](http://www.archiebray.org), email [archiebray@archiebray.org](mailto:archiebray@archiebray.org) or call 406-443-3502 ext. 11 for details and the rest of the class schedule.

**The Clay Studio of Missoula** offers “Coil-building the Figure in a Two-day Reduction Sauce” with Adrian Arleo, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. June 27-28 (\$235-\$245); and “Get Ready for Spring,” a planter-making workshop, 2-5 p.m. March 7 (\$35 for adult and 1 child). Call 406-543-0509, email [info@theclaystudioofmissoula.org](mailto:info@theclaystudioofmissoula.org) or visit [www.theclaystudioofmissoula.org](http://www.theclaystudioofmissoula.org) for details.

**The Elling House Arts and Humanities Center** in Virginia City offers a poet laureate workshop with Tami Haaland for Madison County students, April 24. The workshop concludes at 4 p.m., when students are invited to read their personal compositions. Visit [www.ellinghouse.org](http://www.ellinghouse.org) or call 406-843-5507.

**The Targhee Music Camp** at the Grand Targhee Ski Resort in Alta, WY, offers musicians of wide-ranging ability levels, from just past beginning to semi-professional, the opportunity to take lessons from world-class musicians, Aug. 3-6. In addition to jam sessions, workshops and concerts, classes are available for guitar, mandolin, resonator guitar, banjo, bass, fiddle, singing, and songwriting. Guest artists include: Tim O’Brien, Jim Lauderdale, Tony Trischka, Courtney Hartman, Eli West, Billy Cardine, Ben Winship, and Tom Murphy. The

band-in-residence is Blue Diamond Strings with Eric Thompson, Kate Brislin, Jody Stecher, Suzy Thompson, Paul Shlasky, and Paul Knight. Scholarships are offered in three categories: local, young and open, and applications are accepted until May 15. Visit [www.targheemusiccamp.com](http://www.targheemusiccamp.com).

**The Hockaday Museum of Art** in Kalispell offers the Winter Art Maker Series featuring an in-gallery painting demonstration by Karen Leigh, 5:30-7 p.m. March 19 (\$10); “Rocky Mountain Icons” with Shelle Lindholm, noon-4 p.m. March 14, 21 and 28 (\$100); Plein Air Paint Out at Glacier National Park, June 17-19 (application deadline April 4). Docent Guided Tours are held at 10:30 a.m. Thursdays and 1 p.m. Saturdays. Senior Tour and Tea Days are March 12 and April 9 with docent-led tours at 10:30 a.m., and Crits and Croissants: A Saturday Morning Artists’ Critique is 10:30 a.m.-noon March 14 and April 11. Visit [www.hockadaymuseum.org](http://www.hockadaymuseum.org) or call 406-755-5268.

**The Sandpiper Art and Gift Gallery** in Polson offers Dona Miller’s “Introduction to Precious Metal Clay,” 10 a.m.-1 p.m. April 18 (\$95) and “Beyond the Basics of Precious Metal Clay,” 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 2 (\$155). Other workshops include “Hot Wax and Beyond” with Olivia Olsen, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. June 13-14; and “Landscape Painting Simplified” with B. Rex Stewart, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. June 20. Visit <http://sandpiperartgallery.com> or call 406-883-5956 for details.

**Great Falls College MSU** offers Mixed Media Collage Painting with Jenn Volkmar, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. March 14 (\$49); Watercolor Painting with Catherine Lowden, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays March 30-April 27 (\$175); Human Figure Drawing with Brenda Wolf, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, April 2-30 (\$200); Digital Camera, Photo and Editing Basics with Pat Volkmar, 6-9 p.m. April 8-9 and 15-16 (\$89); Beginning Digital Photography with Nick Bradford, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, April 21-May 5 (\$165). Call 406-268-3734 or email [outreach@gscmsu.edu](mailto:outreach@gscmsu.edu).

**The Crown of the Continent Guitar Workshop** in Bigfork is open for registration to its sixth annual event Aug. 30-Sept 6. A professional staff of teaching musicians will be joined by 12 world-renowned guitar artists and will focus on 10 distinct guitar styles. The classes for 2015 are: “Play with the Masters” with Dweezil Zappa and Shane Theriot; “Join the Band – Live N’ Kickin’” with Dennis McCumber; “Jazz Rock Evolution” with James Hogan; “The Art of Songwriting” with Bret Boyer, with artists-in-residence Brett Dennen and Madeleine Peyroux providing support during the week; “Jazz Guitar Essentials” with Mark Dzuiba; “Personalized Rock and Blues” with Jared Meeker; “Brazilian Emerges in Montana” with Romero Lubambo; “Classical Guitar Perfected” with the LA Guitar Quartet; “Six Styles – A Style a Day for the Acoustic Player” with Doug Smith; and “Beyond Six-String Guitar” with Susan Mazer. Other artists-in-residence include jazz legend Lee Ritenour and his all-star band, Jon Herington and David Grissom. Fee is \$850 without accommodations or \$2800 with accommodations. Call 855-855-5900 or visit [www.crownguitarfest.org](http://www.crownguitarfest.org) for information. EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 1, 2015. Registration until Aug. 1 or until sold out.

**The Red Lodge Clay Center** offers a Spring Workshop with Michael Sherrill. The materials-based artist offers workshop demonstrations and an artist presentation: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. April 11 and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 12. Other classes include a family Easter Holiday class, 10:30 a.m.-noon, March 21 (\$10 per person); Mold Making Workshop, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. March 27-29 (\$85, advance registration is required); a family Mother’s Day class, 10:30 a.m.-noon, May 2 (\$10 per person); and a 6-week Adult Clay Class for beginners to advanced, 9 a.m.-noon Mondays, May 4-June 8 (\$120). Call 406-446-3993 or visit [www.redlodgeclaycenter.com](http://www.redlodgeclaycenter.com) for details.

**Zootown Arts Community Center** in Missoula offers a five-week Beginners-to-Advanced Level Screenprinting Class, 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays, March 10-April 7 (\$85-\$95). Other offerings include: Poetry Night, 6-7:30 p.m. March 17; Contemporary Art History, 2-4 p.m. April 12 (\$20); Clay Coil Pots, 6-8 p.m. May 20 (\$20); and Relief Printing, 2-4 p.m. June 14 (\$20). A Glass Fusing Orientation Class is 6-7:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month (\$15-\$20 + cost of glass); and Bob Ross Night is 6-8 p.m. every fourth Wednesday (\$20-\$25). Call 406-549-7555 or visit [www.zootownarts.org](http://www.zootownarts.org) for details.

**The Art Center** in Helena offers an oil/acrylic workshop with Greg Scheibel, April 18-19 (\$150-\$195). Class size is limited to 15. The workshop

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## National arts resources

- **National Endowment for the Arts:** 400 7th St. SW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-682-5400; [www.artsendow.gov](http://www.artsendow.gov); email: [webmgr@arts.endow.gov](mailto:webmgr@arts.endow.gov).
- **National Endowment for the Humanities:** 400 7th St. SW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-606-8400; [www.neh.fed.us](http://www.neh.fed.us).
- **Arts 4 All People:** [www.arts4allpeople.org](http://www.arts4allpeople.org); email: [a4ap@wallacefunds.org](mailto:a4ap@wallacefunds.org).
- **Americans for the Arts:** 1000 Vermont Ave. NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20005; 202-371-2830; [www.artusa.org](http://www.artusa.org).
- **American Association of Museums:** 1571 Eye St. NW, Ste. 400, Washington, DC 20005; 202-289-1818; [www.aam-us.org](http://www.aam-us.org).
- **National Trust for Historic Preservation:** 1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202-588-6000; [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org).
- **ADA Services Unit:** U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1801 L St. NW, Rm. 9024, Washington, DC 20507; 202-663-4900 or 800-669-4000 for employment questions; [www.eeoc.gov/facts](http://www.eeoc.gov/facts).
- **New York Foundation for the Arts:** 155 Avenue of the Americas, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10013-1507; 212-366-6900; [www.nyfa.org](http://www.nyfa.org).
- **Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board:** 1331 F St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004; 800-872-2253; [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov).
- **National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC):** 800-346-2742 or 800-344-5405 for assistive technology product information.

will focus on landscapes with emphasis on concepts, colors and composition choices. Sign-up began Jan. 18. The George Bumann drawing workshop at FWP “Montana Wild” facility near Spring Meadows Lake, June 27-28, is for students to learn a process that “works for you.” Workshop emphasizes careful observation and memory, the use of drawing as a tool to record what you see, and to dig into your subject. Bumann will share techniques of drawing from nature. (\$150-\$195; registration begins March 27.) Email [Helen.Rietz@hrietz@gmail.com](mailto:Helen.Rietz@hrietz@gmail.com) or call 406-461-3244 for details. Visit [www.theartcenterhelena.com](http://www.theartcenterhelena.com) for the complete schedule of 2015 workshops.

**Big Sky Writing Workshops** in Billings offers a Full Script Workshop with Gordy Hoffman, 6-10 p.m. March 3 (\$40-\$175). The full registration of \$175 allows four writers to submit their scripts in advance, and Hoffman will provide direct and in-depth feedback on each screenplay during the workshop (limited to four writers). Also available: Intro to Screenwriting with Gordy Hoffman, 6-8 p.m. March 4 (\$30). To register, visit [www.bluecatscreenplay.com](http://www.bluecatscreenplay.com). Danell Jones offers two classes: “Understanding Shakespeare’s Tempest,” 6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays, March 5, 19, 27 and April 2 and 9 (\$65); and “Poem-A-Day Challenge 2015,” 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays, March 31, April 7-28 (\$145). Email [danelljones@bresnan.net](mailto:danelljones@bresnan.net) for details.

**The Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture** in Bozeman offers a three-day intensive Ceramic Surface Treatment Workshop with Chuck Aydtlett, March 13-15 (\$450-\$475). The Archie Bray Clay Center professional ceramic artist will teach new ways to manipulate the surface of ceramic art pieces with emphasis on stamping, under glazing, pencil sketching and china paint. Other classes include Art on the Rocks, 6:30-8:30 p.m. March 19 (\$35-\$40). Visit [www.theemerson.org](http://www.theemerson.org), email [education@theemerson.org](mailto:education@theemerson.org) or call 406-587-9797.

**The Livingston Center for Art and Culture** offers “Plein Air Painting on the Yellowstone” Aug. 8-15. Artists will paint from Wilsall to Cooke City and Springdale to the western border of Park County. Fun activities are planned throughout the week ending with the Wet Paintings Exhibit. Official registration began Jan. 15. Visit [www.livingstoncenter.org](http://www.livingstoncenter.org), email [admin@livingstoncenter.org](mailto:admin@livingstoncenter.org) or call 406-222-5222 for details.

**The Alberta Bair Theater for the Performing Arts** in Billings offers a “Celtic Cultural Immersion” workshop at Pug Mahon’s Irish Pub, 5-7 p.m. March 5. The discussion will cover Celtic visual and performing arts, ancient Celtic history, folklore, and the influence of the Celtic culture on the English language. Also offered at the library are two workshops with Dr. John “Jack” Horner: “Cretaceous Predators of the Great Inland Sea,” 5-7 p.m. March 11; and “Dinosaur Locomotion,” 6-7 p.m. March 12. Visit [www.albertabairtheater.org](http://www.albertabairtheater.org), email [Dr.William.Mouat@albertabairtheater.org](mailto:Dr.William.Mouat@albertabairtheater.org) or call 406-294-5202.

**Writing Our Way (W.O.W.)** in Great Falls offers a platform for writers of all varieties to collaborate and empower each other 6-9 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Weaver Library at Great Falls College, MSU, Room A124. Call Lisa Lotte Hardiman at 406-455-6412 for details.

**Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art** in Great Falls offers Drawing for Seniors, 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays (ongoing). Call 406-727-8255 or visit [www.the-square.org](http://www.the-square.org) for details.

**Shawna Moore** in Whitefish offers an annual teacher training program beginning with the Preliminary Practice course April 20-24. Other workshops are available throughout the year in Montana and at select national venues. Visit [www.shawnamoore.com](http://www.shawnamoore.com) or email [shawnamooreart@hotmail.com](mailto:shawnamooreart@hotmail.com) for details.

**Yellowstone Art Museum** of Billings offers “Create with Silver Precious Metal Clay” with Susan Germer, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. March 21; and “Landscape/Wildlife Photography” with Dave Shumway, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 25. Visit [www.artmuseum.org](http://www.artmuseum.org) or call 406-256-6804 for details.

**The National Center for Creative Aging (NCCA)** offers free online training (12-15 hours) to teaching artists how to lead lifelong-learning programs in the arts. The program is self-guided and covers topics such as the aging process, the creative potential of older adults, and how to identify community partners in aging, arts and health-related services. It provides guidance on how to plan, implement and evaluate arts programming for older populations. Visit [www.creativeaging.org](http://www.creativeaging.org) for details.

## Media Arts

**The Equus International Film Festival** in Missoula, Sept. 18-19, seeks submissions for this outreach project for Horse Haven Montana, a not-for-profit equine rescue, adoption and education organization. A panel of judges will select films, videos or television programs on equine-related topics, issues and stories. Mail entries to EIFF, P.O. Box 599, Frenchtown, MT 59834. Call 406-880-0683, email [equusinternationalfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:equusinternationalfilmfestival@gmail.com) or visit [www.equusinternationalfilmfestival.com](http://www.equusinternationalfilmfestival.com) for details. DEADLINE: May 1, 2015; extended deadline, June 1, add 10% late fee.

## Residencies

**The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art** in Great Falls offers an Artist-in-Residence Program for an emerging, mid-career or professional artist. Self-directed artists in any discipline are provided a 1,100 square foot studio with 24-hour access. The body of work created during the residency will culminate in a solo museum exhibition. Resident artists will also gain teaching experience in the K-12 system, which offers a \$4,800 stipend. Visit [www.the-square.org](http://www.the-square.org) or email Jeff Kuratnick at [jeffk@the-square.org](mailto:jeffk@the-square.org) for details. DEADLINE: May 1, 2015.

**The Clay Studio of Missoula** offers a studio residency for a developing visual artist who is looking for a place to pursue focused work while gaining important technical skills and teaching experience. A working knowledge of the ceramic medium and previous experience working in a ceramics studio is strongly preferred. Call 406-543-0509 or visit [www.theclaystudioofmissoula.org](http://www.theclaystudioofmissoula.org) for details. DEADLINE: April 2, 2015.

## Grants/Fellowships

**The National Endowment for the Arts** announces two programs, Challenge America and Art Works, which support projects anticipated to take place beginning in 2016. Challenge America offers support primarily to small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations. DEADLINE: April 16, 2015. Art Works supports the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts. DEADLINE: July 23, 2015. Visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov) for details.

**The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access** offers Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions, which are to help small and mid-sized institutions improve their ability to preserve and care for significant humanities collections. DEADLINE: May 5, 2015. The Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program supports projects that provide an essential underpinning for scholarship, education and public programming in the human-

ities. Funding strengthens efforts to extend the life of and make access more widely possible to cultural materials. DEADLINE: July 21, 2015. The Documenting Endangered Languages program develops and provides advance knowledge concerning endangered human languages. The program will support fieldwork and other activities relevant to recording, documenting, and archiving endangered languages. DEADLINE: Sept. 15, 2015. Call 202-606-8570, email [preservation@neh.gov](mailto:preservation@neh.gov), or visit [www.neh.gov/grants](http://www.neh.gov/grants) for details.

**The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Public Programs** offers Digital Projects for the Public grants to support projects that are largely created for digital platforms, and can demonstrate the potential to attract a broad, general audience. The Bringing Culture through Film: International Topics program supports films that examine international themes and subjects in the humanities. The films are meant to spark Americans’ engagement with the broader world by exploring countries and cultures outside of the United States. Visit [www.neh.gov/grants](http://www.neh.gov/grants), call 202-606-8269 or email [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov) for details. DEADLINE: June 10, 2015.

**Montana Silversmiths** of Columbus awards Pursuit of Excellence Scholarships to high school and college students to celebrate the student with a desire to become the best that they can be. Scholarships are awarded for expressing a “can do” philosophy by continually working on improving scholastic and personal skills, setting and achieving goals, being involved in a western way of life, possessing strong sportsmanship skills, and being involved in the community. Students receive a scholarship to an educational institution of their choice. Visit [www.montanasilversmiths.com](http://www.montanasilversmiths.com), email [info@montanasilversmiths.com](mailto:info@montanasilversmiths.com) or call 888-677-9487 for details. DEADLINE: July 24, 2015.

**The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Education Programs** offers Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities. This grant is to enhance the humanities content of existing programs, develop new programs or lay the foundation for more extensive endeavors in the future (for projects beginning Jan. 2016). Visit [www.neh.gov/grants](http://www.neh.gov/grants), call 202-606-8471 or email [hi@neh.gov](mailto:hi@neh.gov) for details. DEADLINE: June 25, 2015.

**The Artists’ Fellowship, Inc.** assists professional fine artists (painters, graphic artists, sculptors) and their families in times of emergency, disability or bereavement. Assistance is given without expectation of repayment. Visit [www.artistfellowship.org](http://www.artistfellowship.org); email [info@artistsfellowship.org](mailto:info@artistsfellowship.org); or call 212-255-7740 ext. 216 for details.

**The National Endowment for the Humanities Office of Challenge Grants** offers capacity-building grants, intended to help institutions and organizations secure long-term support for their humanities programs and resources. Visit [www.neh.gov/grants](http://www.neh.gov/grants), call 202-606-8309 or email [challenge@neh.gov](mailto:challenge@neh.gov) for details. DEADLINE: May 5, 2015.

**The National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Research Programs** offer “Awards for Faculty at Tribal Colleges and Universities.” The program supports individual faculty or staff members pursuing research of value to humanities scholars, students, or general audiences. Call 202-606-8200 or email [facultyawards@neh.gov](mailto:facultyawards@neh.gov) for details. DEADLINE: April 15, 2015. Fellowships are also available to support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Recipients usually produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources. Projects may be at any stage of development. Call 202-606-8200 or email [fellowships@neh.gov](mailto:fellowships@neh.gov) for details. DEADLINE: April 30, 2015. Visit [www.neh.gov/grants](http://www.neh.gov/grants) for all NEH information.

## Sign-up or update your *State of the Arts* mailing info

### NEW ADDRESS

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
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Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### OLD ADDRESS

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620-2201; or go online at [www.art.mt.gov](http://www.art.mt.gov)

## Subscribe to MAC’s eNews bi-weekly email newsletters

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Which email newsletter(s) do you want to receive?

- ☐ Artists ☐ Arts Organizations  
☐ Arts Educators

Mail in form or go online: [www.art.mt.gov/resources/resources\\_subscribe](http://www.art.mt.gov/resources/resources_subscribe)

# MAC GRANTS & SERVICES

## Artist's Innovation Awards

The Montana Arts Council launched this awards program to honor the innovative ideas, practices and the contributions of Montana artists. This application can only be completed online at [art.mt.gov](http://art.mt.gov). The next application deadline will be announced in 2015.

## Artist in Schools and Communities FY16 Grant Cycle Opens

Guidelines for the FY16 Artists in Schools and Communities program will be available on the MAC website beginning January 2, 2015 for projects beginning July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

The Montana Arts Council strives to provide access to quality arts learning to develop the creative potential of Montanans of all ages. Towards that end, the Artists in Schools and Communities program provides matching funds that support a wide range of arts learning experiences and artist residencies for participants of all ages with professional working artists, as well as other special projects that support arts learning in schools and community settings.

**The FY16 grant cycle features a notable change over previous years. Rather than a rolling deadline for grant applicants, there will be one deadline for all grant requests over \$1,500 in the Arts Learning Experience, Artist Residency, and Special Projects categories. This deadline will be April 6, 2015. Grant requests over \$1,500 submitted after the April 6 deadline will not be considered.**

The deadline for all organizations in the Arts Learning Partner category will be April 13, 2015. Arts Learning Partners are select Montana arts organizations that have a proven record of providing high-quality arts learning experiences to participants both regionally and across the state of Montana. Arts Learning Partner organizations must meet specific criteria for consideration in this category.

Grants up to \$10,000 are available and must be matched 1:1 with other funds (MAC will provide a 2:1 match for first-time applicants, Class C schools, or small rural schools supervised by a county superintendent). For complete guidelines, please see our website. To discuss an idea for a potential arts learning project for your school or community, contact Emily Kohring, Director of Arts Education, at (406) 444-6522 or [ekohring@mt.gov](mailto:ekohring@mt.gov).

## Arts Education Artist Registry

The Arts Education program supports a wide range of residencies by professional working artists and local or regional arts organizations (touring or locally based). Activities are hands-on and process-oriented. The artist must be able to clearly communicate the concepts and skills of the chosen art form and relate well to people in a variety of educational settings.

Deadlines are ongoing. To apply visit MAC's website at <http://art.mt.gov> or call 406-444-6522.

## Cultural and Aesthetic Project Grants

In 1975, the Montana Legislature set aside a percentage of the Coal Tax to restore murals in the Capitol and support other cultural and aesthetic projects. Grant funds are derived from the interest earned on this Cultural Trust.

Any person, association, group or govern-mental agency may apply. Requirements include a 1:1 match in cash or in-kind goods and services for Special Projects Under \$4,500, Special Projects and Operational Support. Capital expenditures require a 3:1 match of cash or in-kind goods and services. This application can only be completed online – go to MAC's website at <http://art.mt.gov>. The application deadline is Aug. 1, 2016 for FY 2018-2019.

## Montana's Circle of American Masters

Montana's Circle of American Masters in Visual Folk and Traditional Arts celebrates the contributions of Montana's master artists. A member of Montana's Circle of American Masters is a person who, throughout their lifetime of work in the traditional arts, has created a notable body of work. Of significant cultural and artistic stature, their work is representative of the historic, traditional and innovative arts and handcrafts distinctive to the state and is worthy of note on both a state and national level. Deadlines for this program are ongoing. For nomination materials, visit the MAC website at [http://art.mt.gov/artists/artists\\_masters.asp](http://art.mt.gov/artists/artists_masters.asp) or contact Sheri Jarvis at [sherijarvis@mt.gov](mailto:sherijarvis@mt.gov) or by phone at 406-865-0884.

## Public Value Partnerships

The Montana Arts Council is pleased to continue operating support grants for Montana non-profit arts organizations under a program titled Public Value Partnerships. Public value partners are defined as organizations making a positive difference in the individual and collective lives of the citizens of the state through the arts, and worthy of state investment. These grants fund Montana non-profit arts organizations who have had their 501(c)(3) status for a minimum of five years and at least a half-time paid staff member. Current guidelines are available on the MAC website. The next round of funding will be from July 1, 2015-June 30, 2019. The deadline for new applicants is Friday, April 3, 2015. Current

grantees' final reports serve as their application. Visit <http://art.mt.gov> for more information.

## Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts

Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts are given throughout the year to provide funds for:

- Training and Network Development opportunities that help build art skills, healthy arts careers and businesses.
- Market Expansion to help increase exposure and improve marketing or promotion, opportunities for exhibition or performance and sales.
- Public Outreach Arts Activities for ongoing and one-time arts activities by arts organizations and artists that help firmly anchor the arts in

the greater community.

- Challenges and Emergencies to provide assistance for artists or arts organizations experiencing catastrophic-level emergencies that threaten their ability to continue their work, and demand prompt and immediate attention.

Artists, 501(c)(3) arts organizations and Preschool-12 teachers are eligible to apply. 1:1 matching grants are available up to \$1,000 and decisions will be dictated by the availability of funds and the nature of the requests. Awards are made directly by the council and applications are reviewed monthly.

This application can only be completed online – go to MAC's website at <http://art.mt.gov>. The application deadline is the 15th of the month (or first business day after the 15th if that falls on a weekend). Grant funding for Fiscal Year 2015 is almost fully depleted. Please contact staff before applying to determine if funds are available.

## Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP)

MAP, a workforce development program for Market Ready Certification, helps artists map a sustainable future by aiding them in preparing the tools they need for a wider market place and to build a successful business in art.

MAP connects regional groups of artists with learning opportunities like workshops, mentorships, internships, and studio-based work. The cohorts commit to monthly meetings to work on developing tools to become market ready. Each cohort is guided by a certified MAP coach and receives information and guidance from the MAP program director. The monthly meetings provide an opportunity to bring samples of artwork, discuss problems, and share recent successes.

For more information contact Shari Jarvis at [sherijarvis@mt.gov](mailto:sherijarvis@mt.gov) or call 406-865-0884.



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## Help us find technical assistance articles for *State of the Arts*

The Montana Arts Council is requesting submissions from artists and organizations on practical professional development tips for artists for upcoming issues of *State of the Arts*.

Topics might include:

- "How to" articles (i.e. marketing tips for the beginning visual artist, how to find a publisher for your first book, doing your own PR, writing an effective artist statement or how to make a CD).

- Innovative arts education projects or statistics.

Upcoming deadlines are: April 1 for the May/June issue; and June 1 for the July/August issue.

Please limit submissions to 500 words. Call MAC at 406-444-6510 or email [mac@mt.gov](mailto:mac@mt.gov) before submitting stories.

# ARTS & CULTURE: Statewide Service Organizations

**Humanities Montana**, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022; [www.humanitiesmt.org](http://www.humanitiesmt.org). Presents humanities programs, awards grants, conducts speakers bureau, reading/discussion groups and teacher programs.

**MT Art Education Assn.**, President: Marvin Pauls; [mpauls@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:mpauls@mcps.k12.mt.us); [www.maeamt.org](http://www.maeamt.org). Provides professional information and development for art teachers.

**MT Art Therapy Assn.**, President Elect: Steve Thomas; [sgtartx@yahoo.com](mailto:sgtartx@yahoo.com); [montanaarttherapyassociation.org](http://montanaarttherapyassociation.org). Connects art therapists, educates the public, and conducts art exhibits to emphasize the healing nature of art making.

**MT Arts**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Provides administrative services for statewide organizations and some local groups and acts as a fiscal agent for emerging arts organizations.

**MT Assn. of Symphony Orchestras**, Peter E. Bogy; [montanasymphonies@gmail.com](mailto:montanasymphonies@gmail.com), 332 B Mendenhall St., Bozeman, MT 59715; [www.montanasymphonies.org](http://www.montanasymphonies.org). Provides resource sharing, imports musicians and conducts seminars and conferences.

**MT Center for the Book**, c/o Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022, ask for Ken Egan. Organizes public forums featuring Montana authors; and promotes reading, book arts and publishing.

**MT China Painting Art Assn.**, 1202 Hauser Blvd., Helena, MT 59601; 406-442-9504. Promotes the art of china painting, porcelain and glass; sponsors a yearly public show featuring nationally known teachers.

**MT Community Foundation**, 1 N. Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1, Helena, MT 59601; 406-443-8313; email: [mtcf@mt.net](mailto:mtcf@mt.net); [www.mtcf.org](http://www.mtcf.org). Maintains endowments for nonprofit organizations and awards grants.

**MT Cultural Advocacy**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Coalition of arts and cultural agencies that lobbies the state legislature to maintain funding of cultural agencies and oversees legislation affecting Montana's cultural sector.

**MT Dance Arts Assn.**, Charlene White, 718 Logan St., Helena, MT 59601; 406-443-6519; [creativeartscenter@hotmail.com](mailto:creativeartscenter@hotmail.com); [www.montanadancearts.org](http://www.montanadancearts.org). Sponsors a fall and spring workshop for young Montana dancers, administers a summer scholarship program and presents a summer teachers' workshop.

**MT Arts Association, Inc.**, c/o Ron Paulick, 708 56th St. So., Great Falls, MT; 406-453-4076. Assists artists in all disciplines through educational projects, information, and workshops.

**MT Music Educators Assn.**, President John Combs, 1500 Clarkia Lane, Missoula, MT 59802; [jcombs@mcps.k12.mt.us](mailto:jcombs@mcps.k12.mt.us); [www.mtmusiced.org](http://www.mtmusiced.org). Provides professional information and development for music teachers in all areas.

**MT Painters Alliance**, Janet Sullivan, 4839 Scott Allen Dr., Missoula, MT; [www.mtpaintersalliance.com](http://www.mtpaintersalliance.com). A statewide organization comprised of professional outdoor painters who seek to showcase the vast variety and spectacular beauty of Montana.

**MT Performing Arts Consortium**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551; [www.mtperformingarts.org](http://www.mtperformingarts.org). Supports performing arts presenting in large and small communities; sponsors an annual conference showcasing performing arts; facilitates block-booking; and provides quick-grants to rural presenters.

**MT Preservation Alliance**, 120 Reeder's Alley, Helena, MT 59601; 406-457-2822; [www.preservemontana.org](http://www.preservemontana.org). Provides technical assistance and information on historic preservation issues through a circuit rider program. Publishes Preservation Montana.

**MT Public Television Assn.**, PO Box 503, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645; 406-547-3803. Supports efforts of Montana's rural low-power public television stations; provides technical assistance in video production and station application procedures and sponsors an annual conference.

**MT Theatre Education Assn. (MTEA)**, President Mike Hesford, Jefferson HS, Boulder, MT; school 406-225-3317; cell 406-224-1598; [mike.hesford@jhs.k12.mt.us](mailto:mike.hesford@jhs.k12.mt.us). A

K-12 education resource for Montana theatre educators; presents yearly at MEA-MFT and is affiliated with EDTA.

**MT Thespians**, Chapter Director, Sarah DeGrandpre, 2120 S. Reserve St., PMB 136, Missoula, MT 59801-6451; 406-728-2400 ext. 8052; [SarahDeGrandpre@montanastateshpians.org](mailto:SarahDeGrandpre@montanastateshpians.org); [www.montanastateshpians.org](http://www.montanastateshpians.org). Recognizing and rewarding excellence in high school theatre.

**MT Watercolor Society**, PO Box 93, Great Falls, MT 59403-0093; Jessica Glenn, membership chair, email: [mtwsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:mtwsmembership@gmail.com); [www.montanawatercolor.society.org](http://www.montanawatercolor.society.org). Sponsors two annual workshops, a yearly Open Members show, a national Juried Watermedia Exhibition, and a quarterly newsletter.

**Montana Art Gallery Directors Assn.**, 2112 First Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401; 406-761-1797; email: [montanaart@bresnan.net](mailto:montanaart@bresnan.net); [www.magdamt.wordpress.com](http://www.magdamt.wordpress.com). Supports visual art centers and galleries through traveling exhibitions, technical assistance and an annual conference.

**Museums Assn. of Montana, MT Historical Society**, 225 N. Roberts, Helena, MT 59620; 406-444-4710; [www.montanamuseums.org](http://www.montanamuseums.org). Supports museums of all disciplines through annual conferences, quarterly newsletters and technical assistance with museum issues.

**Rocky Mountain Photo Club**, 1518 Howell St., Missoula, MT 59802; 406-728-5374. Provides photography education, professional information, workshops and opportunities for members to show work in galleries.

**VSA Montana**, PO Box 7225, Missoula, MT 59807; 406-549-2984; [www.vsamontana.org](http://www.vsamontana.org). Provides information, technical assistance and workshops on working with differently-abled constituencies.

**Writer's Voice of the Billings Family YMCA**, 402 N. 32nd St., Billings, MT 59101; 406-248-1685. Assists emerging writers in artistic and professional development; supports accomplished writers; provides public programs that challenge the traditional definition of literary arts.

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STATE OF THE

Arts



RaeAnn Loewen and Laura Brown explore movement from a wheelchair (foreground) as Gwen Schaff dances with visiting guest artist Terance Sdoeung in the physically integrated snow scene of Shira Greenberg’s “Nutcracker on the Rocks,” presented in December by the Helena-based Cohesion Dance Project.

(Photography by Skye Hatten)

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Montana’s own J.K. Simmons nominated for Academy Award

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MAILING ADDRESS:  
PO BOX 202201, HELENA, MT 59620-2201  
STREET ADDRESS:  
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V: 406-444-6430; T:711  
Fax 406-444-6548  
website: art.mt.gov  
email: mac@mt.gov

Change Service Requested

Montana Arts Council

Cynthia Andrus, Chairman,  
3247 Garden Brook Ln., Bozeman, MT 59715  
Tom Cordingley, Vice Chairman,  
428 S. Cooke, Helena, MT 59601  
Karen Bohlinger, 802 Power St., Helena, MT 59601  
Corky Clairmont, 33608 Emory Rd., Ronan, MT 59864  
JP Gabriel, 6655 Falcon Lane #6, Bozeman, MT 59718  
Mark Kuipers, 4770 Duncan Dr., Missoula, MT 59802  
Tracy Linder, 13311 Ballard Ivie Rd., Molt, MT 59057  
Lynne Montague, 3000 James St., Billings, MT 59102  
Arlene Parisot, 748 So. California, Helena, MT 59601  
Jay Pyette, 736 1st Ave., Havre, MT 59501  
Rob Quist, PO Box 1711, Kalispell, MT 59901  
Jean Steele, 435 Jorgy Way, Hamilton, MT 59840  
Youpa Stein, 73250 Lemlama Ln., Arlee, MT 59821  
Judy Ulrich, 4 Elm Dr., Dillon, MT 59725  
Jane Waggoner Deschner, 635 N. 26th St., Billings, MT 59101

MAC Staff

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director  
afishbaugh@mt.gov • 406-444-6430  
Carleen Layne, Accountant  
clayne@mt.gov • 406-444-6489  
Cinda Holt, Business Development Specialist  
cholt@mt.gov • 406-777-0090  
Sheri Jarvis, Montana Artrepreneur Program Director  
sherijarvis@mt.gov • 406-865-0884  
Kim Baraby Hurtle, Percent-For-Art Director  
khurtle@mt.gov • 406-444-6430  
Kristin Han Burgoyne, Database & Grants Director, Accessibility Coordinator  
kburgoyne@mt.gov • 406-444-6449  
Emily Kohring, Director of Arts Education  
ekohring@mt.gov • 406-444-6522  
KarenDe Herman, Administrative Specialist  
kherman2@mt.gov • 406-444-4700